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THE MINISTERS AND THE ELECTIONS.

THE elections are now concluded—virtually, that is; for though the Scottish Universities are still carrying on their protracted poll, the result is of no consequence except to those learned constituencies themselves—and the outcome is this, that the Liberals have an assured majority of 108 at least. That, for all party purposes, is great defeat and sore discouragement to Conservatism; and in that light it has been viewed by Mr. Disraeli and his colleagues, for they have resigned the offices they held under the Crown, and Mr. Gladstone has been sent for by the Queen. This event changes the aspect of political affairs in a material degree. The battle of the Irish Church—which, of course, is the question uppermost in everyone's mind—will have to be fought from altered positions, though with the same weapons and by the same antagonists. By relinquishing office before the meeting of Parliament, Mr. Disraeli and his colleagues have adopted a course which, although unprecedented, is nevertheless calculated to be useful in several respects. In the first place, it preserves their own dignity; for it is a more dignified act to retire voluntarily from an untenable position than to wait to be ignominiously ejected therefrom; in the next place, Mr. Disraeli has averted the necessity of mixing her Majesty's name in a political struggle, which, had he remained in power and laid a message from the Queen before Parliament, he must to some extent have done. Furthermore, he has, by retiring thus early, given his successor more time for completing his arrangements and perfecting his plans than he would otherwise have possessed. For these advantages

thanks are due to the Conservative Leader, of whom it may with propriety be said that nothing in his official life became him like the leaving it. Still, he has only anticipated the inevitable course of events by a week or two, and has, no doubt, been influenced in the line of action he has chosen rather by personal and party considerations than by any chivalrous notions about consulting the convenience of his political opponents. Indeed, he intimates as much in the circular addressed to his supporters when he says that he and his colleagues "hold it to be more consistent with the attitude they have assumed, and with the convenience of public business at this season, as well as more conducive to the just influence of the Conservative party, at once to tender the resignation of their offices to her Majesty, rather than to wait for the assembling of a Parliament in which, in the present aspect of affairs, they are sensible that they must be in a minority." It is as unnecessary, therefore, to go into hysterics of admiration of the right hon. gentleman's conduct as it is to go about to find unworthy motives for the course he has resolved to pursue. In Opposition, as in power, he is still to be leader of the party of obstruction, and in that capacity has pledged himself to give "an uncompromising resistance" to the disestablishment and disendowment of the Irish Church.

Mr. Gladstone, on the other hand, is equally pledged to persevere in the policy he has enunciated, and has only been called to office a little earlier than was expected. It is not to be supposed that he has been taken unawares, or that he has not only mapped out his line of action, but already chosen the leading men by whose aid he intends to fight the battle.

In the mean time, he will be sufficiently occupied in making necessary arrangements and in giving definite shape to his projects. The winter Session, if held at all, will probably be merely formal; and the real work of the new Parliament will begin about the usual period, in February of next year. We may quietly wait events, therefore, in the full assurance that the Queen's Government will be duly carried on and the business of the nation properly attended to.

A good deal of controversy has arisen as to whether the voting in the county elections, and especially in Middlesex, does or does not indicate a reaction in favour of Conservatism. Into such nice calculations and mere party squabbles we do not care to enter. It is enough for us that Liberalism has decidedly triumphed on the whole, and that, as we have already pointed out, the intelligence of the town populations is in its favour; while the counties, in which narrow-minded bigotry and stupidity are most rampant, to say nothing of other influences which have played a prominent part in the contest, are ranged on the side of Conservative obstruction. The "stupid party" in the House of Commons will, as a whole, be stupider than ever, though, fortunately, less powerful. The Middlesex election, however, as it seems to us, is distinguished from others, inasmuch as it presents a moral that is worth pointing out. As everybody knows, there was much unseemly squabbling between the Liberal candidates for the favour of that important constituency, neither of whom acted in a way likely to command respect and confidence; and the effect was shown in the fact that at least a third of the electors expressed



THE ELECTIONS IN IRELAND: SCENE IN AN "OPEN HOUSE" AFTER THE POLL.

their disgust by not voting at all. There are on the register in Middlesex from 23,000 to 24,000 electors; and, assuming that Lord George Hamilton's 7850 votes were mainly plumpers—and about that, we believe, there cannot be two opinions—and that the Liberal votes were pretty fairly split between Lord Enfield and Mr. Labouchere, it follows that only some 14,247 electors recorded their votes, upwards of 8000 abstaining from doing so. This result we arrive at by adding Mr. Labouchere's votes to those of Lord George Hamilton and presuming that the 110 polled by Lord Enfield above his Liberal colleague are made up of plumpers and stray votes split with the Conservative candidate. The "moral" of these facts is obvious—namely, that paltry, personal dislikes and differences should never be allowed to interfere with united party action, and that candidates should never forget that they are—or ought to be—gentlemen. Both these conditions were violated in Middlesex; and we know the result. It is no business of ours to apportion the blame of this miscarriage; we only point out the facts and indicate the lesson they teach. We hope the Liberals of Middlesex will be more fortunate in their candidates at the next election than they have been in this.

One or two other matters in connection with the elections we wish to mention, and then, we hope, we shall have done with them entirely. The exercise of "undue influence" is loudly complained of nearly everywhere and by both parties. In the counties and rural boroughs the landlords and the clergy are alleged to have put "the screw" on electors without stint or mercy; while the unsuccessful Conservatives in the towns ascribe their discomfiture to mob interference and violence; and, in Ireland, to priestly dictation. Perhaps there is some truth in all these assertions; but, so far as evidence has been adduced as yet, the complaints against landlord and clerical action in the counties seem to be best authenticated. Without caring to apportion the blame here either, the inferences to be drawn from the allegations made are these—that purity and freedom of election will never be possible so long as personal canvassing and the employment of agents are allowed, and until the voters are protected by the ballot.

The landlords and the clergy—especially the latter—no doubt think they have done grand things during this election in protecting their own Church Establishment by shielding, as they fancy, that of Ireland. But most of them will probably live to see and repent the error they have committed. It can never be for the advantage of one institution that has enough to do in defending itself, to be clogged with the task of supporting another that has no defence at all; and that, we take it, is precisely the position the champions of the English Establishment have been so ill-advised as to assume. They have talked much of "defending the outworks of the Church;" but they may ere long find that, by relying solely upon merely material force for the maintenance—not to say propagation—of what they profess to consider true religion and genuine Protestantism, and entirely ignoring spiritual influences, they have fatally undermined the citadel itself. Lack of faith in the teachers is sure to beget distrust if not positive disbelief and scoffing in the taught; and if that should be the result, as is not improbable, the temporary maintenance of the Irish Church will be a poor reward for the destruction of the religious feeling of the people, and, what is, perhaps, of more moment in clerical eyes, of the English Church as by law established. In face of the gross clerical partisanship displayed during the elections just closed, people will begin to think that a Church that can only be defended by ignoring the plainest dictates of justice and violating all the principles she professes to teach, must rest on an unstable foundation, and that her defenders must be conscious of having a very bad case when they condescend to use such weapons as misrepresentation, slander, coercion, and corruption. As we said last week, we do not deprecate the existence of a strong Protestant feeling in the country; nay, we rejoice over the fact; but we do regret that that feeling should be so bigoted as to be unjust, and so unenlightened as to be open to gross misdirection, and that, too, on most cowardly and unworthy pretences.

Assuredly, the clergy of the Anglican Church have done her an ill service by the course they have taken on this occasion. The majority of the people of the three kingdoms have pronounced against the Irish Establishment; the clergy of the English Church have linked her fate with that of the sister institution; and will, probably, speedily discover that all they have accomplished is to accelerate and make sure the downfall of both. The doom of the Irish Church as a State institution is indubitably sealed; the only questions now are simply as to the time and the way; and the English clergy, by identifying themselves with a forlorn cause, have only helped on the process which will result in the Anglican Church also, as a State institution, being made to share the fortunes of her more peccant sister. That neither Church, as Christian institutions, will really lose by deprivation of State support we are fully persuaded; but the clergy are not sufficiently "educated" as yet to see that, or their utter lack of faith in the truth of their principles and in themselves blinds their judgment. Let us hope that a day of enlightenment for their benighted minds and of encouragement to their timid and wavering spirits is at hand; and, that that day may come speedily, may no time be lost in disestablishing the Irish Church, in order that she may show that Christian and Protestant truth can stand alone and need not the rotten aid of State-fabricated crutches.

"OPEN HOUSES" IN IRELAND AFTER THE ELECTIONS.

"OPEN HOUSES," or a free entertainment given by the successful candidates in each county, are now the last remaining signs that the general elections are over in Ireland. On these occasions the peasantry in general, as well as the voters, are supplied with any amount of strongale, and pipers and fiddlers are not wanting to aid in the indoor amusements of the evening. Whenever it happened that a sharp contest was imminent, but which failed at the last moment by the retirement of some hopeless candidate, the peasantry regarded such a cowardly act with much disapprobation, inasmuch as their little preparation for a "shindy" went for nothing, and all the thousands that were expected to be squandered amongst them vanished in a moment into "thin air." The car proprietors, also, who had for the previous fortnight been mustering every conceivable kind of vehicle, and who expected to reap a rich harvest from the ambition of aspiring gentlemen, expressed their opinion of the faint-hearted in terms not the most polite for banking said car proprietors of the anticipated profits so suddenly snatched away. It is the lucky candidates who, having by a chance been saved the expenses of a contest, are most liberal in giving the people these free entertainments, to enable them not only to drown their grief for the sport they were so unceremoniously deprived of, but to give them an opportunity of indulging in several little propensities, that come as a matter of course, whenever there is the luck of a merry-making that includes plenty of drink—free, gratis, for nothing. Our illustration represents a scene at an "open house" in Queen's County, which is now represented by Messrs. Fitzpatrick and Digby. The ale was abundant, both within and without the establishment, and the diversion was unexceptionable. The village schoolmaster mounted an ale barrel while in full play, and read aloud the latest news from the *Freeman*, interspersed with several original observations of his own on the question in hand, amidst the cheers of his admiring audience, until certain little differences of opinion arose between some parties in the group, which caused a slight skirmish, and for a while interrupted the good-fellowship of the meeting, which otherwise passed off like many others through the country, with the greatest joy and hilarity.

MR. GOLDWIN SMITH writes to warn Englishmen who have been thinking of going out to the new American "University," of which Mr. Smith is a professor, that the buildings are not yet complete. Englishmen will, therefore, do well to stay at home for the present.

ELECTION PETITIONS.—The first petition under the Bribery Act of last Session has been presented by Mr. J. H. Tillett, against the return of Sir H. Stracey, the Conservative member for Norwich. Mr. Serjeant Ballantine has been retained, and Messrs. Ashurst, Morris, and Co. are the solicitors in the matter. As it is the first petition, it will probably come on very soon.—Sir Leopold McClintock has lodged a petition against the return of Mr. Whitworth for Drogheda. Intimidation, spiritual influence, and rioting on the polling day are the grounds on which it is alleged that the election should be declared null and void.—Mr. R. W. Jackson, Conservative, it will be remembered, was elected for Hartlepool by a majority of three over Mr. Richardson, the Liberal candidate. It was alleged at the declaration of the poll that Mr. Jackson had secured his majority by polling dead men and some seamen who were known to be in the Baltic. The Liberals have since been making a careful inquiry, and in an address which Mr. Richardson has just issued he states his intention of demanding a scrutiny.

VOTING BY BALLOT.—The general election of 1863 has conclusively proved the absolute necessity for the ballot. It has been clearly demonstrated that the return of Liberal members to represent the counties of England is a task of great difficulty, and one which often ends in a mortifying defeat, solely by reason of the pressure brought to bear upon the electors by landlords and clergy. It is just as clearly apparent that all this must continue to exist until we have vote by ballot. As long as the present mode of recording votes is in force, just so long may we expect to see electors driven to the booth like sheep, and labour under a degradation which is not only politically but morally wrong. We would suggest, then, that a memorial should be at once prepared and forwarded to Mr. Gladstone by the Liberals of every town in England, setting forth the absolute necessity of the ballot, and calling urgently upon him to direct his attention to this most important subject. Let the burden of the prayer be that the ballot is the only means by which electoral purity can be secured. Mr. Gladstone cannot resist the *vox populi*, nor do we for a moment think he would attempt to do so. If the memorial is made thoroughly to represent the feelings of the Liberal party throughout England, but one result can follow, and that which every true-hearted Liberal desires—political freedom in the exercise of his vote.—*Wellington Journal*.

DR. VAUGHAN AND CONVOCATION.—The Vicar of Doncaster, the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, was nominated as Proctor to represent the clergy of the archdeaconry of York in the new convocation, but has been withdrawn by those who put him forward because his views are not those of the clergy generally on the subject of the Irish Church. Dr. Vaughan (in a correspondence which has been published between him and Canon Hey) says he is very happy to be released from his candidature, and desires that on no subsequent occasion he may be proposed. "Nothing," he says, "but a strong and (as I was assured) general wish on the part of the clergy of the archdeaconry overcame my reluctance to be put in nomination on a former occasion. I felt then, and I feel now, that it is not probable that any clergyman who desires to think for himself will long find himself the representative of any opinions but his own." Dr. Vaughan adds:—"I have taken no public part whatever in reference to the great impending question of the disestablishment or disendowment of the Irish Church. I have neither preached, nor spoken, nor written upon the subject, with the exception of one brief letter, printed without my name, in which I urged the imperative duty of considering some claims which I thought likely to be overlooked in arranging the future position of the Anglican communion in Ireland. My 'views' on the subject have been known to my friends from my youth up. They are unchanged. But I could not divest myself of the feeling that it was scarcely generous in a clergyman to take a prominent place in urging forward, at a time of great public excitement, a measure which must involve many painful consequences to a body of fellow-clergymen towards whom he ought to feel nothing but sympathy and reverence. I have full confidence in the justice and wisdom of Parliament, when once it shall have shaped its decision after that severe and probably protracted deliberation upon which I believe that it is just entering. And in that confidence I have seen no reason to withhold my individual vote in this election from that party which I have all my life believed best to understand the interests of the country and the cause of social progress."

THE SCOTTISH HOSPITAL.—Monday being St. Andrew's Day, the 204th anniversary of the Scottish Hospital was celebrated, according to custom, by a dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern, with the Marquis of Bute in the chair. This charity was incorporated by Royal charter in 1665, for the purpose of assisting infirm, aged, and indigent natives of Scotland, resident in London, not in receipt of parochial relief. The claims on the funds of the corporation during the past year have, in many respects, been exceptional, and several of the cases of a very pressing and urgent nature. Pensions varying from £6 to £25 per annum have been granted to nearly 200 respectable men and women, whose means of support have been greatly increased by the timely aid afforded. Monthly applicants, exceeding 210 cases, have had sums given to them by the directors, in some instances amounting to £5 at one time. In addition to these more than 1200 persons have had casual assistance at the office of the corporation. Passages to Scotland have been granted to upwards of 200 persons, principally mechanics, who, in consequence of the depressed state of the shipbuilding trade, have been compelled to leave London in the hope of obtaining more constant and more remunerative employment in their native land. But for the intervention of this corporation many would have been thrown upon the parish, and thereby lost that feeling of independence which is the pride of every Scotsman to cherish and maintain. Upwards of 140 children, of Scottish parents, resident in the metropolis, have during the year been educated at the expense of the corporation. Soldiers and sailors, natives of Scotland, to the number of nearly 400, have been in receipt of pensions from the Kinloch bequest, a fund in trust to the Scottish Corporation. The noble chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Scottish Hospital," referred to the achievements of the Scottish Guard and the Scottish Regiment of Louis XIV.; and contrasted with the popular idea of a Scotchman—his hardness, selfishness, coldness, and calculation—the good qualities of the "Kindly Scot," as illustrated by the existence of this institution. The Scottish Hospital did not exist to encourage thriftlessness or dependence, but to preserve independence and self-reliance. The Duke of Roxburghe, as president of the hospital, in acknowledging the toast, referred to the circumstance that, but for his absence from the country, the Prince of Wales would have presided upon this occasion; and gracefully complimented the noble Marquis upon the efficiency with which he had supplied the place of his Royal Highness. When his Grace proposed the health of the chairman there was a general exhibition of enthusiasm, and the number of glasses that were broken in the performance of what are called "Highland honours" was larger than has been witnessed upon any previous occasion. The amount of the subscriptions announced during the evening was about £2000, but did not include the usual donation from the chairman.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

Judgment has been given in the case of a fresh batch of French journalists prosecuted for publishing subscription lists to the Baudin monument. The editor of the *Reveil* is sentenced to six months' imprisonment, 2000f. fine, and deprivation of his civil rights; the editors of the *Avenir National* and the *Tribune* to a fine of 2000f. each; and the editors of the *Temps* and the *Journal de Paris* to a fine of 1000f. each. The editor of the *Progrès du Nord*, of Lille, has been sentenced to a fine of 500f. and one month's imprisonment; while M. Castres, editor of the *Indépendant du Tarn*, was acquitted. These two newspapers were prosecuted for the part they took in the Baudin subscriptions. The Court of Riom annulled, on Wednesday, the judgment of the Tribunal of Clarmont-Ferrand, which acquitted the *Indépendant du Centre*, and, taking into consideration "extenuating circumstances," has sentenced the manager of that paper to a fine of 500f.

MM. Emile Ollivier, Adolphe Thiers, Jules Favre, Louis Bancel, Emmanuel Arago, Ernest Picard, Jules Simon, Henri Rochefort, and Gambetta will be the candidates of the Liberal Union for the approaching Paris elections.

ITALY.

The Chamber has approved a bill granting political and civil rights to all Italians belonging to the provinces not yet united to the kingdom of Italy. The Government has introduced a bill abolishing the privilege hitherto enjoyed by the clergy of exemption from the conscription. This measure has long been advocated by the Democratic party, and the *Diritto* now suggests that it should be accompanied by the exclusion of the clergy from all the public schools. The bill has excited much attention in the Chamber, it is said, and is regarded by many members as an indication of the policy the Government intends to adopt towards Rome.

A question involving liberty of conscience has just been decided, for the first time in Italy, by the Court of Lucca. A witness in a criminal case refused to take an oath, on the ground that his religion forbade it. For this refusal he was committed by the Correctional Tribunal of Pisa. On appeal, however, the Lucca Court held that he was justified in the position he had taken up.

ROME.

The Roman authorities have tasted blood, with the usual results. Four more of the persons implicated in the disturbances of 1867 have been sentenced to death. The execution the other day seems to have been only in the nature of a preliminary experiment.

Details of the execution of Monti and Tognetti, on the 24th, ult., have come to hand. Almost to the last it was not thought that the execution would take place; but when it became evident that it would, a large crowd assembled about the scaffold, which was well guarded by soldiers. The men could not be executed together, as only one guillotine was used, and the account of the means that had to be employed to hide from the second man the traces of his predecessor's death are very horrible indeed. The younger man, who was the last executed, was very frightened, and was led to the scaffold in a wretched state. The whole scene was, as may be imagined, very disgusting, and it was made needlessly horrible by the executioner brandishing the heads of the victims in the air. When all was over, a sack of sawdust was thrown on the floor of the scaffold, and it became a pulpit from which a friar preached a no doubt very edifying sermon to the multitude.

The Papal Zouaves have opened a subscription for the relief of the family of Monti; 1800f. have already been collected. Subscription lists have also been opened throughout Italy for the relief of the families of Monti and Tognetti.

SPAIN.

A decree has been issued by Senor Sagosta recommending the civil governors of the provinces to be on their guard against reactionary manoeuvres, the object of which is to disturb public meetings, in the hope that the Government may thereby be induced to withhold from the citizens the right of holding such meetings. The governors are to warn the people that those who thus attempt to create disorder are simply agents of the Bourbons. The Government is determined to maintain liberty, and to punish all who attempt to violate the rights the country has acquired. Another decree throws open the professions of stock and general broker and interpreter to all Spaniards and foreigners; and a third intimates that all vessels arriving from the West Indies, Mexico, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Honduras, Peru, England, the Baltic, Italy, and Algeria shall be admitted to free pratique, provided they arrive with clean bills of health.

The new loan increases but slowly. The total subscription announced up to Wednesday night is a little over three millions and a half sterling, and sixteen millions and a half have to be raised to make up the sum required—twenty millions. The Minister of Finance is said, however, to be fully confident that the loan will be taken up by the Spanish people, and for this reason he has not opened subscription lists in any foreign country.

A great Republican demonstration took place in Madrid on Sunday, at which about 50,000 persons were present, although only 12,000 took part in the proceedings. No precautionary measures were adopted by the Government, and none are said to have been needed, as everything passed off very quietly. A disturbance took place in Valladolid, on Sunday, between two bodies of Republicans and Monarchists holding demonstrations. The Monarchists were dispersed, and the Republicans obtained possession of their banner.

PRUSSIA.

Count Bismarck arrived in Berlin on Wednesday, having broken his journey the previous night at Stettin, where he slept. He is said to be in excellent health.

AUSTRIA.

One more obstacle was placed in the way of the return of priestly domination in Austria by the passage, on Monday, in the Lower House of the Diet at Pesth, of the bills relative to mixed marriages and religious equality.

RUSSIA.

The international railway conference has adopted resolutions to facilitate and increase direct traffic. Their proposals are:—To remove the impediments arising from the Russian frontier custom-houses; to allow French locomotives to proceed through to Kydtkahnen; to provide for the more rapid delivery of goods liable to spoil; and to further reduce the railway fares in Germany, France, and Russia.

ROUMANIA.

The Roumanian Chambers were opened, on the 27th ult., by Prince Charles in person. In his speech from the throne, his Highness said that the internal state of the country, and also the relations with foreign Powers, were most satisfactory. The condition of the finances also was flourishing, and the time was now past when constant recourse to loans was necessary. Within the last year the system of roads throughout the country had made a greater advance than in the previous thirty years. In reference to foreign politics, his Highness said that both the Treaty of Paris and also the peculiar situation of the country made the strictest neutrality a duty which the Government would always fulfil. As a result of the good understanding existing at present with foreign countries, conventions are mentioned which have been concluded with Austria and Russia; and, as regards the abolition of the Consular jurisdiction, negotiations have already been commenced with Russia to that effect. The Prince also expressed a hope that other Powers would, by the adoption of a similar course of action, give equal proofs of their good will to Roumania. In conclusion, Prince Charles urged the deputies to be united and give up their party dissensions.

A new Ministry has been formed, which is composed as follows:—M. Demetrius Ghika, President of the Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs; M. Cogalintseano, Minister of the Interior

M. Brocresco, Minister of Justice; M. Alexander Goleco, Minister of Finances; M. Papadopolu Calimach, Minister of Public Worship; Colonel Duka Nemer, Minister of War.

John Bratiano has been elected President of the Lower House, and Nicholas Goleco of the Senate.

THE UNITED STATES.

General Sherman, in a report on the progress of the Indian war, exculpates the white settlers from the blame of having been instrumental in the renewal of hostilities. The General recommends the transfer henceforth of the management of Indian affairs to the War Office, urging, at the same time, a vigorous prosecution of the war against the hostile tribes, whose forcible removal to reservations distant from the settlements and lines of travel he considers an unavoidable necessity. Through the cable we learn that the cavalry, under General Custar, have captured a Cheyenne village, in the Dacotah territory, routing the savages and killing 150 of them.

Some of the extreme Republicans in the recent election in the western cities, said to be chiefly Germans, refused to vote for either candidate for President. In place of a ballot containing the names of electors, they voted a piece of paper bearing the words:—"Neither Grant nor Seymour. No President at all. Abolition of the monarchical office. Government of the people through their responsible agents in Congress. Revision of the United States Constitution."

CUBA.

The latest advices received at New York from Cuba state that the insurgents have announced their determination to fight for independence, and have refused all offers of pardon.

ERUPTION OF MOUNT ETNA.

ONE of the most remarkable features of the disturbance to which the Italian volcanic system has been subjected during the past year has been the comparative quiescence of the great Sicilian volcano. During the whole of the past thirteen months Vesuvius has been in one stage or another of volcanic action; either violently in eruption and pouring forth over the surrounding country enormous streams of lava, or exhibiting by subterranean mutterings and heavings the action of internal forces gathering themselves together for a renewed outburst. During all this period Etna has scarcely shown any signs of sympathy with the Neapolitan volcano. Once or twice, indeed, we have heard of some of those movements which indicate that internal processes are going on which may lead to an eruption; but the danger has never seemed great, and in every case has quickly passed away. Now, however, without any prolonged premonitory process, Etna has suddenly burst into violent eruption. Vesuvius has apparently exhausted itself in its efforts to afford relief to the action of those subterranean forces which seem to have been so internally energetic during the past months. The cones which had lately opened were nearly extinct, and lava flowed only from the great central cone. As the action of Vesuvius thus diminished, signs began to be noticed that the cessation of the eruption was not to be looked upon as indicative of the complete relief of the imprisoned gases and fluids which had excited the action of the mountain. An earthquake occurred at Bucharest (the second which had taken place there in the course of a few days) on the evening of Nov. 27. One day later the great Sicilian volcano was roused into action; and from the north-eastern cone, as the telegram informs us, a tremendous eruption is now in progress.

Mount Etna, speaking generally, of a very symmetrical figure, presenting the form of a flattened cone. But on the eastern side the cone is broken by a large and deep valley, called the Val del Bove, which runs nearly to the summit of the mountain. This valley has been described by Dr. Buckland—and Sir C. Lyell indorses the view—as better worthy of attention than perhaps any single spot in Europe. The entire mass of the mountain is laid open in this valley to the depth of from 3000 ft. to 4000 ft. It is, no doubt, from a portion of the northern boundary of the Val del Bove that the present eruption is taking place.

Grand as is the volcanic action of Mount Vesuvius, yet Etna is a far more important outlet. To begin with, the dimensions of Mount Etna are far larger than those of Vesuvius. Mount Etna rises in solitary magnificence to the height of nearly 11,000 ft. above the shores of Sicily, and the circular base of the cone is nearly ninety miles in circumference, while the lavas extend over an area the circuit of which is twice as large as that of the cone. And high as the mountain is at present, it has been held that of old it was far higher. Ælian relates that in his day it had sunk considerably, inasmuch that sailors could no longer see the summit from spots whence they had formerly seen a considerable part of the cone. Recupero assigned to the mountain a height of 13,000 ft.; and the Catanians were highly indignant when Captain Smyth, after a careful trigonometrical survey, stated that the mountain was but 10,874 ft. in height. They refused to accept this result; and the young Englishman who had affronted the majesty of their volcanic mountain ran no little risk during the remaining period of his stay in Sicily, so offended were they at his audacity. But in 1824, Sir J. Herschel, unaware of Captain Smyth's measurement, determined the height of the mountain by barometrical measurement to be 10,872½ ft. Of course, the close accordance between the two results was in part, as Herschel said, the result of accident; though, to quote Dr. Wollaston's remark on the subject, "It was one of those accidents which would not have happened to two fools." It settled the question of the mountain's height, however. Whether Recupero's measurements were so erroneous as the new result would seem to show may be questioned. For we have very striking evidence of the variability of the cone's height even during recent eruptions; and the accounts of older eruptions are yet more remarkable in this respect. In 1444 the principal cone of eruption was 320 ft. above the dome-shaped surface of the surrounding portion of the mountain; but in 1537 the whole of this cone fell in, and was no more seen. In the year 1693, when the region under Etna was so violently disturbed as to shake the whole of Sicily, causing an earthquake in which upwards of 60,000 persons perished, the mountain lost so much of its height, according to Boccone, that it could not be seen from places from which it before had been clearly visible.

Unlike Vesuvius, Etna has never within historic times come to be looked upon as an absolutely extinct volcano. Seneca ranked Etna amongst the number of nearly extinguished volcanoes, and Ælian saw in the sinking down of the mountain traces of the gradual extinction of the subterranean fires. But we have records of eruptions during those centuries preceding the Christian era in which the fires of Vesuvius had seemed totally extinct. Diodorus Siculus mentions an eruption which took place before the Trojan War, and drove out the colonists who had peopled a portion of the country near Etna. And we learn from Thucydides that in the spring of the year 425 B.C. a lava stream ravaged the environs of Catania. He mentions also that this was the third eruption which had happened in Sicily since the island had been colonised by the Greeks. Of the second of the eruptions alluded to by Thucydides, Pindar has given a graphic description in his first Pythian ode. Of this description Sir Charles Lyell remarks that although the poet was only making a passing allusion to the Sicilian volcano as the mountain under which Typhoeus lay buried, yet by the few touches of his master-hand every striking feature of the scene has been faithfully portrayed. We are told of "the snowy Etna, the pillar of heaven; the nurse of everlasting fire, in whose deep caverns lie concealed the fountains of unapproachable fire; a stream of eddy smoke by day, a bright and ruddy flame by night; and burning rocks rolled down with loud uproar into the sea."

Of eruptions which have taken place in modern times, that of 1669 seems to be the first which is worthy of especial comment. It was preceded by an earthquake, during the course of which Nicolosi, a town twenty miles from the great cone, had been completely destroyed. Then two gulfs formed in the neighbourhood of the destroyed town, and from out of these sand and scoriae were

thrown up in such enormous quantities as to form a mountain, since called Monti Rossi. Nor was this the most remarkable evidence which was afforded at this time of the intensity of the forces which are in action beneath Mount Etna. A fissure twelve miles in length suddenly formed with a loud crash. It extended "in a somewhat tortuous course" nearly to the summit of the mountain. Its depth was unknown; its breadth but 6 ft. A most brilliant light shone out of this remarkable gap. Soon after five other fissures, parallel to the first, opened in succession, emitting fire and smoke, and giving out "bellowing sounds which were heard at a distance of forty miles." The lava which was poured forth during this eruption overwhelmed no less than fourteen towns and villages, some of which had a population of between 3000 and 4000 inhabitants. Then, flowing steadily on, the burning mass approached the walls of Catania. A rampart 60 ft. in height had been thrown up by the inhabitants, and it will suffice to show how enormously strong this rampart was to record that it stood unmoved while the lava gradually rose to the summit. Even then it remained unshaken, while the lava streamed over it in a cascade of liquid fire, and overwhelmed a portion of the town. Long afterwards the wall was discovered by means of the excavations made by order of the Prince of Biscari; and one may still see the solid lava "curled over the summit of the rampart, as if in the very act of falling."

After the eruption of 1669 the mountain was not at rest for many years together until 1702, when, after a somewhat violent eruption, there followed a period of repose which lasted twenty-one years. Since the year 1723 Etna has been frequently in action.

Among the most remarkable eruptions of recent times are those which took place in 1811 and 1819. In the eruption of 1811, according to Gemmellato, the great crater first showed by violent detonations that it was filled nearly to the summit with molten lava. Then a tremendous shock was followed by an outburst of lava from the side of the cone, not far from the summit. Presently, another stream burst out, lower down; then a third, still lower, and so on until there were no less than seven different issues, all lying in the same straight line, one below the other. It has been suggested that this peculiar series of phenomena resulted from the fact that the internal framework of the mountain had been burst open by a perpendicular rent. In 1819, three large caverns opened, from which flames, red-hot cinders, and sand were thrown up. Then shortly another mouth opened lower down, and, lastly, a fifth, from which an enormous torrent of lava flowed down into the Val del Bove. The stream of lava flowed two miles in the first day, and nearly as far in the second. When the lava reached a vast precipice which forms the head of the valley of Calanra, it rushed down like a cascade, and as it solidified before reaching the bottom, the noise and crash of the fall was inconceivably awful. Sir Charles Lyell states that the column of dust raised by the abrasion of the hill over which the hardened masses descended was so immense that the Catanians thought a new eruption had burst forth there.

The latest eruption of Mount Etna was the one (already referred to) which took place in 1865.—*Daily News*.

Mount Etna is now again comparatively calm, and Vesuvius is quite quiet. The eruption ceased at the latter mountain almost as soon as it began at the former.

THE EARL OF LISBURN has offered £100 reward for the capture of a poacher named Richards, who is believed to have murdered his Lordship's keeper, Butler, in the Crosswood preserves, last Saturday morning.

WORKING MEN IN PARLIAMENT.—Earl Russell, in reply to a letter from Mr. George Howell, late candidate for the representation of the borough and hundreds of Aylesbury, thanking his Lordship for the interest he had evinced in his canvass, has written the following note:—"Pembroke Lodge, Nov. 27.—Sir,—I am sorry that you are not in Parliament. I wish Mr. Odger was there, too. You might be of great use on questions of labour and capital, as well as on other questions.—I remain, your obedient servant, RUSSELL. To Mr. George Howell."

TRADE OF THE COUNTRY.—The recently issued Board of Trade returns show that in the month of September there was an important increase in imports not only upon the figures of all the previous months of the year, but also upon the corresponding periods of 1866 and 1867. The total value amounted to £23,386,646, which was upwards of three millions sterling in excess of the value recorded in August. The variation in the exports is not so marked. The total value in October was £16,876,898, which was an increase of rather over a million in the returns of the corresponding month last year, but about £150,000 less than those of the previous month this year.

FIRE ON THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.—About eleven o'clock on Wednesday night a fire, resulting in the destruction of considerable property, broke out on the works in connection with No. 3 contract of the Thames Embankment. The part where the disaster originated faces the Temple Gardens, and the works, which have been wholly destroyed, comprised a row of wooden storehouses, extending over nearly one hundred yards. The fire was first discovered in the stores belonging to the works situated about the centre of the buildings, and no sooner was the alarm given than the workmen employed in the construction of the new bridge at Blackfriars, and those on other parts of the embankment, were on the spot to render assistance. The flames soon reached the carpenters' and smiths' shops in one direction, and the surveyor's hut in the other, and the offices of the clerks of the works were soon in a blaze. In its progress the fire came in contact with a quantity of naphtha, turpentine, &c., stored near the offices already named, at which point the works terminated. The works are entirely demolished. The signal-bell had just fallen as the first engine began to play. How the fire originated is unknown, but that the first spark emanated from the stores is certain. The loss of machinery, tools, &c., will be considerable. The contractor for the works is Mr. Webster.

REMOVED LEGAL APPOINTMENTS.—The result of the elections having rendered an immediate change of Government a practical certainty, common rumour has, of course, with her proverbial veracity, been busy with the names of the real or presumed aspirants to the new places. The reports prevalent on the subject are as various and perplexing as could be desired, but we have reason to believe that the most probable list of promotions is the following:—It being certain that, pending the question of Church disestablishment, Sir Roundell Palmer will not accept office under the new Government, it has, we understand, been arranged that Lord Justice Wood is to be offered the woolsack; and that, should he accept office, as is to be expected, he will be succeeded as Lord Justice by Sir Roundell Palmer, who will at the same time be raised to the Peerage as a counterpoise to Lord Cairns in the House of Lords. Mr. Coleridge is, we believe, to be Attorney-General, and Mr. Jessell Solicitor-General; some other place, not yet defined, having to be provided for Sir Robert Collier, it being reported, truly or falsely we know not, that neither he nor Mr. Coleridge will serve under the other. The rumoured retirements of the Master of the Rolls and Vice-Chancellor Stuart are both, so far as we know or believe, utterly without foundation; and although it is true that the Master of the Rolls is legally competent to sit in the House of Commons, no Master of the Rolls since Sir Wm. Grant has, we believe, done so, and we recollect that in 1865 the present Master of the Rolls gave a most decided negative to a proposition that he should stand for Westminster, on the ground, as we understood, that, though not an illegal, it was an unjudicial position.—*Solicitors' Journal*.

PROPOSED TESTIMONIAL TO MR. GLADSTONE.—Since the close of the election for South-West Lancashire a wish has been frequently expressed by the working men and other inhabitants of this division of the county that a fund should be raised for the purpose of presenting a substantial testimonial to the Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone, M.P., as an acknowledgment of the eminent services which he has rendered to the country, and also as an expression of the high esteem in which he is held by all classes of the people. At the urgent request of a number of the working men of South-West Lancashire, and those who have raised themselves from the position of working men, the proprietors of the *Liverpool Mercury* have consented to become treasurers of such a fund, and will now be happy to receive subscriptions of one penny and upwards. If workshops or places of business in which large numbers of men are employed prefer to appoint a collector, the subscriptions will be acknowledged in his name. No living statesman has done so much for the improvement of the domestic, social, and intellectual condition of the working classes as William Ewart Gladstone, and no man more deserves their warmest gratitude and their most unbounded confidence. To him, and to the policy which he has so strenuously advocated, the working classes are indebted for cheap bread, cheap tea, cheap sugar, and other commodities which contribute so much to their home comforts. To Mr. Gladstone the gratitude of the nation is due for the development of cheap literature and the penny press; and his far-seeing genius provided, in the Post-Office savings banks, the stimulus to habits of frugality which may preserve thousands of honest, hard-working men and women from the social benefits which their declining days. These are but a tithe of the social benefits which Mr. Gladstone has conferred on the nation, but they are sufficient to distinguish him as a benefactor to his race, and entitle him to the warmest gratitude of his fellow-countrymen.—*Liverpool Mercury*.

RESIGNATION OF MINISTERS.

AFTER a duration of a little over nine months, the Administration of Mr. Disraeli is at an end. The right hon. gentleman received her Majesty's command to form a Government on Feb. 24 last, on the resignation of Lord Derby; and at a Cabinet Council held on Wednesday afternoon Ministers decided not to wait for the judgment of the new Parliament, but at once to place their offices at the disposal of her Majesty. In a circular addressed to the Conservative party in both Houses of the Legislature, Mr. Disraeli says:—

"If Parliament were sitting, I should not have adopted this course; but, as the public acts of a Ministry should not be misunderstood, and as there are no other means of explaining their motives, I have taken the liberty of thus addressing the Conservative members in both Houses of Parliament."

"When her Majesty's Government, in the spring of this year, were placed in a minority in the House of Commons on the question of disestablishing the Church in Ireland, they had to consider that the policy proposed had never been submitted to the country, and they believed that the country would not sanction it."

"They therefore felt it their duty to advise her Majesty to dissolve Parliament; but to make an appeal to the obsolete Constituency would have been an absurdity, and the candid opinion of the country coincided with that of Parliament, that no course could be satisfactory unless the voices of the enlarged electoral body were ascertained. All means were, therefore, taken by the Ministry to expedite that appeal, and a special statute was passed for the purpose."

"Although the general election has elicited, in the decision of numerous and vast constituencies an expression of feeling which in a remarkable degree has justified their anticipations, and which, in dealing with the question in controversy, no wise statesman would disregard, it is now clear that the present Administration cannot expect to command the confidence of the newly-elected House of Commons."

"Under these circumstances, her Majesty's Ministers have felt it due to their own honour, and to the policy they support, not to retain office unnecessarily for a single day. They hold it to be more consistent with the attitude they have assumed, and with the convenience of public business at this season, as well as more conducive to the just influence of the Conservative party, at once to tender the resignation of their offices to her Majesty, rather than to wait for the assembling of a Parliament in which, in the present aspect of affairs, they are sensible that they must be in a minority."

"In thus acting, her Majesty's Government have seen no cause to modify those opinions upon which they deemed it their duty to found their counsel to the Sovereign on the question of the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church. They remain convinced that the proposition of Mr. Gladstone is wrong in principle, probably impracticable in conduct, and, if practicable, would be disastrous in its effects."

"While ready at all times to give a fair consideration and willing aid to any plan for the improvement of the Church in Ireland—to the policy which they opposed last Session, rife, as they believe it to be, with many calamities to society and the State, they will continue, in whatever position they occupy, to offer an uncompromising resistance."

"Downing-street, Dec. 2."

"B. DISRAELI."

THE DISRAELI ADMINISTRATION.

ON Tuesday, Feb. 25, of the present year, Lord Stanley announced to the House of Commons that the Earl of Derby had resigned the office of First Minister of the Crown, and that Mr. Disraeli had undertaken the duty of constructing an Administration; and he asked for an adjournment until the following Friday. On that evening there stood on the paper of the Lower House a motion, of which notice had been given by Mr. Maguire, on the state of Ireland. This was necessarily postponed. On Friday, the 28th, another appeal was made to both Houses for adjournment, in order that the work of Ministerial reconstruction might be completed; and, though not without remonstrance as to the "long day" that was asked, a further recess was granted to Thursday, March 5. By that time the rearrangement of the Government had taken place. Lord Cairns had replaced Lord Chelmsford as Lord Chancellor, Mr. Ward Hunt had succeeded Mr. Disraeli as Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. Selater-Booth had exchanged the Secretaryship to the Poor-Law Board for that vacant at the Treasury. On the afternoon of the same day Mr. Disraeli reappeared in the House, and took his place as Prime Minister. He had not in the mean time undergone the trouble of a re-election as a member for Bucks, recent statute relieving him of that necessity, inasmuch as he had been only transferred from one office to another, and no appeal to his constituents was required. On that occasion he delivered an inaugural address, in which he declared that his policy would be precisely that of Lord Derby; but he added, with some significance, that it would be a "truly Liberal policy." Nothing at that time occurred to disturb his equanimity on assuming his high function, for there was no debate, and only an ebullition of general discontent with political affairs from Mr. Bouvier. Thenceforth it seemed as if the efforts of the new Government would be mainly directed to complete the scheme of Parliamentary reform, by passing the Scotch and Irish bills and getting through the Estimates. Obstacles, however, soon presented themselves to trouble the even tenor of their way. In due time Mr. Maguire's motion on the state of Ireland came on; and by the mouth of the Earl of Mayo the Irish policy, such as it was, of the Ministry was developed. How it was received by the House and the country is a matter sufficiently recent to be remembered; and it needs only to be said that in the course of the debate a keynote was struck by Mr. Gladstone to which the Liberal party in Parliament and the country responded with singular unanimity. This was, of course, his famous brief but emphatic declaration that the Church of Ireland as an Established Church must cease and determine. In immediate succession followed Mr. Gladstone's resolutions embodying the principle of which notice was given on March 21. On the 28th of that month Lord Stanley gave notice of a dilatory amendment, and on the 30th the debate on the resolutions began, and concluded on the early morning of Saturday, April 4, with a division on which the first was carried by 330 votes to 278, and the Ministry thus signally defeated by a majority of sixty. The subsequent events, including the carrying of the resolutions, the introduction and passing through the Commons a Suspensory Bill by Mr. Gladstone, and its rejection by the Lords, need only to be mentioned. One practical result was obtained by the united action of the Liberal party in this matter, and that was a pledge from the Government that as soon as the project of Reform was completed an appeal would be made to the new constituencies. Under these circumstances, though not wholly without remonstrance, the Ministry were permitted to carry on the necessary business of the Session. In order to secure the meeting of the new Parliament before Christmas, a Registration Bill, by means of which that object would be facilitated, was passed through the Legislature with unusual speed, and on Friday, July 31, Parliament was prorogued. The Registrations having been completed, on Nov. 11 the Parliament of 1865 was dissolved by proclamation, and the writs issued.

A SINGULAR ACTION FOR FALSE IMPRISONMENT was commenced in the Court of Queen's Bench on Wednesday. The plaintiff is the Rev. John Johnston, who was some time Curate of St. Mary's, Walworth; and the defendant is the Vicar of that parish. The false imprisonment complained of is the alleged illegal incarceration of the plaintiff in a lunatic asylum.

THE GOVERNMENT ACQUISITION OF THE TELEGRAPHS.—The arrangements for the purchase of the telegraphs by the Government are being actively carried on, and a commission appointed by the Accountant-General has nearly concluded the inquiry into what the net profits of the companies really are. A complete collection of the instruments used has been arranged in the library of St. Martin's-le-Grand. It is said to be a most interesting display, and one which shows in a remarkable manner the vast progress which has been made since the first application of electricity to the purpose of telegraphy.

apartment devoted to witnesses is signalised by a viper writhing in a branch of laurel. Lions, or the heads of lions, are to be seen on all sides; and above the head of the accused—of course, by mere accident—is the word "Lex," unfortunately cut in two by the moulding of the door.

Altogether, however, the new building must be regarded as a vast improvement, and the Palais de Justice is now adapted to the wants of the present time, even though the recollections of its past history may have lost something by the process.

are not so well treated as they might be: they are put into ill-lighted rooms, where only wooden benches are provided for their repose; but this is so far superior to the arrangements of our own criminal courts, where witnesses are condemned to the draughty lobbies, with scarcely a chance of resting, except by the early occupation of a place on a form, that we wonder anybody should grumble at it. The seats in the court, however, are admirable—stuffed, and of simple proportions. The jurors are provided with chairs, and the

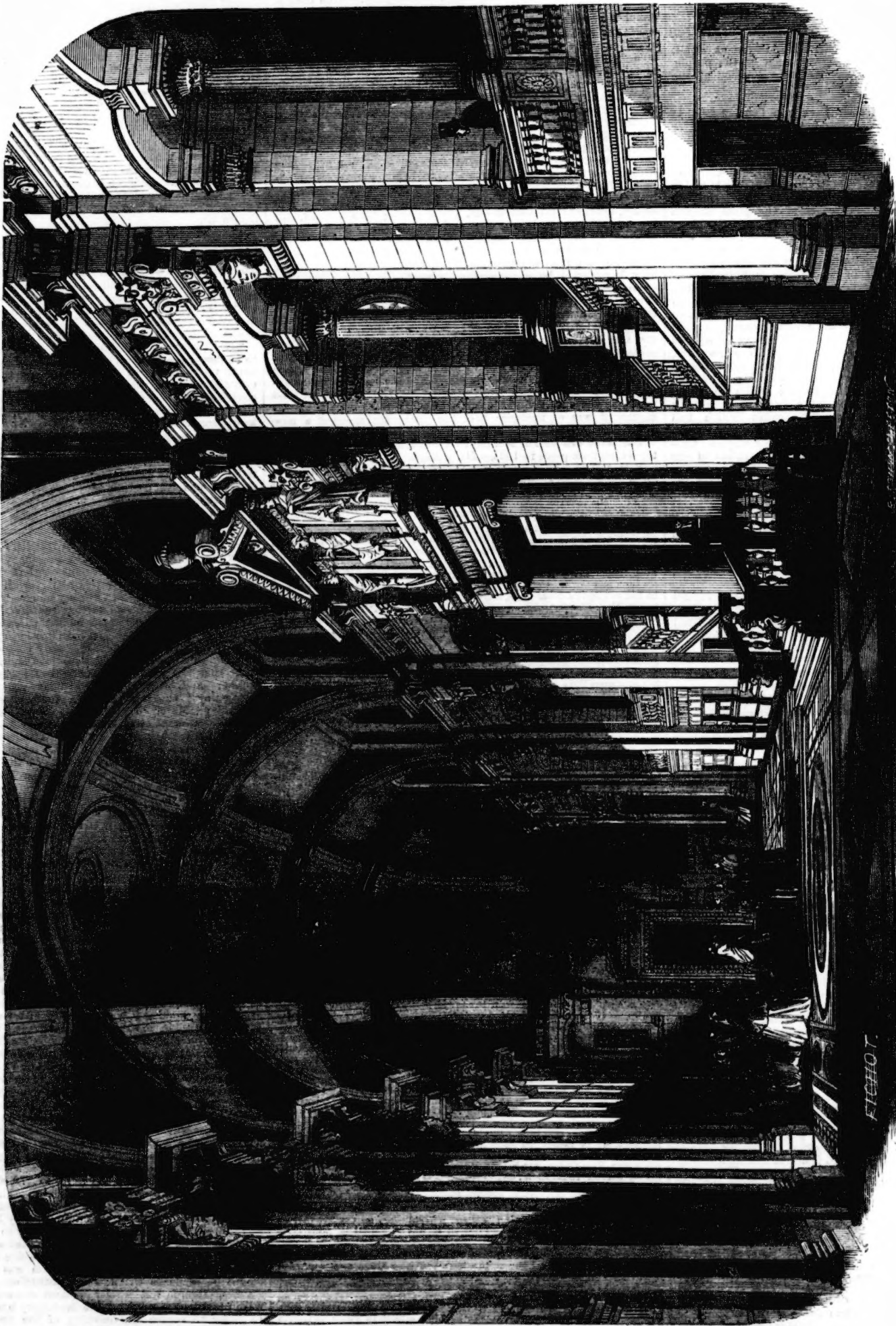
was extreme, in consequence of there being so little distinction in this respect. There is also a very comfortable consulting-room, communicating directly with the *prétoire*, and the robing-room is also in this vicinity. The juries are not quite so well off, for they are lodged on the second floor—the only advantage of which is, according to some French commentators, that during the time expended in going up stairs they will have an opportunity of forgetting the "summing-up" of the President; but they are happy in the possession of a

RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PALAIS DE JUSTICE, PARIS.

We have already given some account in a previous Number of the alterations that are being carried on in the ancient building known as the Palais de Justice, and our Engraving this week represents the continued demolitions and improvements in that portion of the edifice so long called the Salle des Pas-Perdus. This hall of the lost footsteps replaced an old hall which was burned in 1618; and the main frontage towards the boulevard, together with its two wings, was erected in 1766, to repair the ravages of another conflagration. This portion of the building, forming three sides of a square—the fourth being composed of a fine railing, richly gilt, and in the line of the boulevard—is of a plain, robust Doric style; and a broad range of steps leading to the central terrace was always considered one of the most imposing architectural effects in Paris. The interior consisted till lately of a large vaulted hall (the Salle des Pas-Perdus), supported by stout columns, lighted by well-placed lunettes, and surrounded by corridors. Associated as it has always been with the courts of law, where so many weary suitors have waited, and with the dark history of the Revolution and the prisoners who walked out of the Conciergerie (which is in the same building) only to die at the Place Guillotine, the hall of the lost footsteps is a name that suggests a world of thought. It is almost a pity, on the score of sentiment, that any alteration should be made there; but all Paris is being altered, with marvellous rapidity; and during the legal vacation, when the advocates and all the rest of the judicial functionaries who ordinarily throng the courts have been away to relax the grim expression and renew the fading complexion of their official faces, the place itself has changed, and the scaffolding being taken down, the public are challenged to criticise the work of the architects and decorators, the gates being thrown open to crowds of sightseers.

The Salle des Pas-Perdus, which surely will never lose its distinctive name, even though it has been remodelled, is a spacious hall of very grand proportions, the great staircase leading to the court by a series of broad steps easy of access, and finely supported by broad balustrades and architectural details. The pediment is ornamented with statues representing Law and Justice, and the columns are of fine proportions and classical beauty. At the top of the staircase, which is divided into two branches ascending right and left, are two saloons, where the courts of assize are to be held. These rooms are rather long and narrow, and the visitor is struck by the small space reserved for the public in the body of each apartment. The profusion of ornament throughout the new building is also very remarkable, and it is scarcely in accordance with the intention of a hall of criminal justice to display such lavish and gaudy decoration. The sense of awe and the influence of the place on the public appreciation would have been better secured by a simple severity of style and a sparseness of merely decorative detail.

It must be acknowledged, however, that the interior arrangements are remarkably convenient, the entrances to the court being so designed as to leave to witnesses, prisoners, counsel, and officers their separate doorway, communicating with the different divisions of the main building. This is a great improvement, for in the old court the confusion



RECONSTRUCTION OF THE PALAIS DE JUSTICE, PARIS: THE NEW SALLE DES PAS-PERDUS.

refreshment-room and a well-appointed kitchen, so that in future hungry jurymen will not have to beg and pray of a porter to get them a snack to keep them from starvation. It would be well if a similar arrangement could be introduced into English courts of justice, where the sufferings of jurymen and witnesses are amongst the most effectual means taken by the British Government for the encouragement of crime and the deterrent repression of unhappy prosecutors. In the Salle des Pas-Perdus, however, the witnesses

avocats occupy a plain but convenient bench, of which they are proud, because of its exclusive character; but they already complain that the light, which is only admitted by very high windows, leave their faces in deep shadow, and so do not give them the opportunity of impressing the jury by the expression which they convey by their speaking countenances in the course of an appeal or a denunciation. Allegorical ornaments abound everywhere. Medusa's head symbolises the consulting-room, and the door of the

their retirement, a second call was made for a speech from Mr. Boucicault, when he came forward and, labouring under great emotion, said:—"Ladies and Gentlemen,—I would very much rather you had not called upon me to say 'Farewell!' but you have done so in such a spirit and in such a way that I must come to bid you good-by, though totally unprepared to make any observations. I have not so announced it, but this is our last appearance on any stage; and there are peculiar reasons why I should come to play in this drama and bid you farewell. This is my

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL AT COMPIEGNE.

We have already published some particulars of the daily round of Court life at Compiègne. During the past few days the fêtes at the Imperial retreat have been more brilliant than ever, though the home comfort, which is a marked feature of the summer residence of the Emperor, has been maintained. The mornings are spent in field sports by part of the company, while others make excursions either into the forest or to the Château of Pierrefonds, of which we gave an account in a former Number. After breakfast, the guests generally retire to their own apartments to prepare for the morning's recreations. At five o'clock her Majesty has "high tea," to which the visitors who are in attendance are invited. Dinner is served at half-past seven. On the fête-day of the Empress the guests were permitted to present bouquets to her Majesty, and it seems to have been suggested that these simple offerings alone would be appreciated. There was therefore a grand reception, the Emperor wearing the uniform of a General of Division and having the Prince Imperial on his right hand. Each visitor presented a beautiful bouquet to her Majesty, and the dames de la halle of Compiègne were afterwards allowed the same privilege. There was a gala and ball in the evening. During the festivities the Prince Imperial has been occupied, almost daily, in making excursions in the park and about the neighbourhood on his velocipede, in the management of which he has attained no little skill. His cousin, the Duc d'Albi, accompanies him on another velocipede of the same kind, and the youthful excursionists are evidently as enthusiastic in their appreciation of the new method of locomotion as the Parisians who are daily whirling along the Bois de Boulogne.

MR. AND MRS. DION BOUCICAULT.

MR. AND MRS. DION BOUCICAULT made their last appearance before the Irish public, at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, last Saturday evening, in "Arrah-na-Pogue," before an overflowing and enthusiastic audience. At the termination of the play Mr. and Mrs. Boucicault came before the curtain, in compliance with a vociferous demand from all parts of the house, and received an ovation which lasted several minutes. On

their retirement, a second call was made for a speech from Mr. Boucicault, when he came forward and, labouring under great emotion, said:—"Ladies and Gentlemen,—I would very much rather you had not called upon me to say 'Farewell!' but you have done so in such a spirit and in such a way that I must come to bid you good-by, though totally unprepared to make any observations. I have not so announced it, but this is our last appearance on any stage; and there are peculiar reasons why I should come to play in this drama and bid you farewell. This is my

native city ('We are proud of you, and applause). My earliest associations are all connected with this place ('More power!' and loud cheers); and perhaps a greater reason—I don't know whether it be really so—I like to think that you have received me more warmly than any others (Tumultuous cheering, and a cry of 'You are not appreciated anywhere else'). My better self ('Bring her out!') has been in the public service ever since she was a child—twenty years—sixteen of which she has passed by my side ('Let her stand beside you now!' and great cheers); and I think, now that she has helped me to gain an honourable independence, it is time she should (loud applause, during which the rest of the sentence was lost)—and when she retires from public life the stage will no longer have any charms for me ('You must come back!' and cheers). I intend to devote myself entirely to literary pursuits, and I shall endeavour to send you, from time to time, pictures of Irish life and Irish character better even than those of the 'Colleen Bawn' and 'Arrah-na-Pogue'; and, therefore, in the words of O'Grady, 'Though I shall not be here in person, I shall be with you in spirit, any way.' I do not know what literary value may be attached to these works; but they contain the true Irish heart, and every line is instinct with true Irish spirit. I come, therefore, to bid you farewell ('No, no!'), and, hoping you may retain some pleasant memories of us, I can assure you that we shall never forget your unbounded kindness (Roars of applause, during which Mr. Boucicault retired)."

As Mr. Boucicault has announced that he has now retired from the stage, we deem the occasion a fitting one on which to place before our readers his portrait and a brief memoir of his life. Mr. Boucicault was born in Dublin, Dec. 26, 1822, and was educated under his guardian, Dr. Lardner, and at the London University. He commenced his career as dramatic author in March, 1841, with the production of that popular play, "London Assurance," at Covent-garden Theatre. He paid a visit to the United States in 1853, and did not return to London till 1860, when he produced the "Colleen Bawn" at the Adelphi Theatre, in which very successful piece he played himself, as did his wife also. This was followed by the "Octoroon," in 1861, subsequently to which



DION BOUCICAULT, ESQ., DRAMATIST AND ACTOR.

year he carried on the Adelphi Theatre conjointly with Mr. Webster, and afterwards Astley's Theatre, under the name of the Westminster; but the latter speculation proved a failure. Mr. Boucicault is the author of about 140 theatrical pieces, of which "London Assurance," "Old Heads and Young Hearts," "Love in a Maze," "Used Up," "The Willow Copse," "Janet Pride," "Louis XI," "The Corsican Brothers," "Faust and Marguerite," "The Colleen Bawn," "The Octoroon," "The Vampire," and "Arrah-na-Pogue," are perhaps those best known to theatrical memories. His wife, formerly Miss Robertson, who united with her husband in the impersonation of Irish characters, is a popular and fascinating actress.

THE WORKING CLASSES AND THE PATENT LAWS.

ON Monday night a meeting of the Inventors' Institute, under the presidency of Lord Richard Grosvenor, M.P. (president), was held at the offices of the institute, St. Martin's-place, Trafalgar-square, when the patent laws, as affecting the interests of the working classes, were discussed. Members of the invention-right committee, consisting of delegates from numerous industrial associations, attended to explain proposed reforms in the patent laws and to confer with the meeting thereon. The noble chairman, referring to the patent laws, said there existed among all classes, and especially among working men, a strong feeling that the patent laws needed simplification and modification. In the new Parliament there could be no doubt that the Legislature would interest itself much more deeply in social questions than heretofore. Education would, no doubt, form a subject of much discussion in the new Parliament, and education was so closely allied to the objects of the institute that such discussion must affect the present patent laws. Mr. Hume Williams addressed the meeting, and, having paid a high tribute to the memory of their late president, Sir David Brewster, spoke of the expediency and justice of the patent laws, and said that even in these days of free trade there was little ground for apprehending that capital and intellect would be placed in antagonism by any attempt to abolish the protection which satisfied the just requirements of each. In this



RECREATIONS OF THE PRINCE IMPERIAL AT COMPIÈGNE.

age of progress it became a matter of the utmost importance that the inventive genius of the country should be fostered and protected. To new inventions in machinery they should look for additional progress; but still not neglect the old ones. Agreed upon the broad principle of protection to invention, it appeared to the council of the institute that the education of artisans in mechanical knowledge and their guidance in scientific study were matters not unworthy their attention, and accordingly steps had been taken to advance those objects. He concluded by stating that it was intended to inaugurate a benevolent fund for men of science, to which they could appeal in time of need, not as a matter of charity, but of right. Mr. Savage said he had been all his life in contact with intelligent working men; and, from his knowledge of the manner in which the patent laws worked, he could say that their action was tantamount to putting 50 per cent of the intellectual power of the country into the grave. Some of the best inventions had never been patented because of the expense. The steel pen had never been patented on that account. Since 1861 very few new inventions had been exhibited, lest they might be copied. It was said that the inventor of the sewing-machine had derived no benefit from his invention in this country because he was too poor to take out a patent. Captain Selwyn, R.N., thought that a working man's patent should be solid and reliable, because the present patent law was nothing but a permission to go to law. They must first of all have cheap protective law; next, such an investigation as would assure the poor man he was not paying for a sham; and, thirdly, such publicity and encouragement as could only be given by an institute. Hitherto inventors had been pulling one way and manufacturers another; but a better time for both parties was arriving. Mr. Patterson, of the Working-Men's Club and Institute Union, asked why a man should pay a tax for having his brain-property protected? Why should a working man be called on to pay anything beyond a registration fee? It was not right to complain that working men did not invent when they were actually fined for doing so. Mr. Siemens thought that where there was an allegation of an infringement of a patent commissioners should be appointed, who, without stopping a manufacturer's business, could ascertain the truth of the allegation. Mr. Webster believed that brains should be as much protected as property in matter. The state of the present patent laws was a disgrace to a civilised country. After further discussion, a vote of thanks to the chairman closed the sitting.

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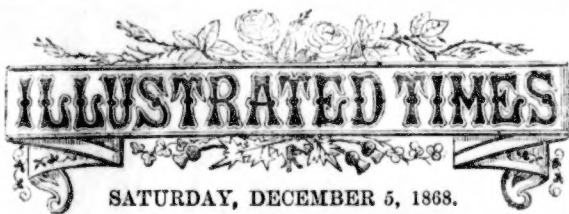
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The Lost Alderman. By Thomas Archer.
Crowning the Christmas King. By Sheldon Chadwick.

And all the News of the Week.

Advertisements intended for publication in the Christmas Number of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES should be sent in not later than the Wednesday preceding the day of publication.



LORD STANLEY.

Of all the members of what may now be called the late Cabinet, the one whose departure from office will be most generally regretted is probably Lord Stanley. He has been accused of having no policy at all; and what is called the "policy of non-intervention," if observed absolutely, may indeed be summed up as mere passivity. But the phrase "non-intervention" has as many meanings, and is susceptible of as many applications, as the so-called "doctrine of nationalities." It is an argumentative weapon that may be turned any way, and is useful according to the skill with which it is employed. In its original and proper sense it signified abstinence from interference in the internal affairs of other countries. Thus the principle of non-intervention was acted upon in the case of the American civil war, and it is now being acted upon as regards Spain; while the principle was violated—to adduce two flagrant instances—by France when, during the Restoration, a French army entered Spain to put down an insurrection; and by Russia when a Russian army entered Hungary for the same purpose. There have been instances of intervention on behalf of liberty, as when a French army and an English fleet assisted the Belgians in their uprising against the Dutch Government; but for the most part, when one State has interfered in the affairs of another, it has been on the side of the existing Government against some attempt

on the part of its subjects to subvert it. Naturally, then, the idea of "intervention" becomes very unpopular in a free country like England, and that of "non-intervention" popular in a corresponding degree.

During the last few years, however, the word "non-intervention" has acquired altogether a new meaning, and is now held by many to signify the maintenance of a neutral attitude in presence of two or more belligerents. This is quite a perversion of the original signification of the word; and no statesman, not even Lord Stanley, could engage on all occasions to keep to a policy of non-intervention if by "non-intervention" absolute neutrality is to be understood. Yet it is as a Minister pledged to the principle of non-intervention that Lord Stanley has gained the favour of the commercial and peace-at-all-price sections of the Liberal party. It so happens that during Lord Stanley's tenure of office no war has taken place on the Continent which could possibly have led us into hostilities unless we had been prepared to break through the principle of non-intervention in its true sense. The German war concerned us no more than—did it not, indeed, concern us nearly so much as—the civil war in America. Earl Russell might have taken it upon himself to offer the combatants good advice; but no English Minister would ever have thought of forming an active alliance either with Austria against Prussia or with Prussia against Austria.

We do not praise Lord Stanley, then, for keeping England out of European conflicts and out of the entanglements of European alliances; for, under the circumstances, he could scarcely have done anything else. There was no opportunity for him to intervene anywhere with the sword. He might, to be sure, have intervened, after the manner of his illustrious predecessor in the same office, with the pen; and for this irritating, inefficacious sort of intervention occasions are always presenting themselves. Lord Stanley had too much tact to proffer his advice where it had not been invited; and, small as that virtue may seem, it is one, nevertheless, which merits recognition. But Lord Stanley's real titles to the gratitude of the country are the settlement which he did so much to bring about of the Luxembourg question and the steps which he is now taking, or has already taken, for the arrangement of the various difficulties which had arisen between this country and America. If "non-intervention," in the broadest sense of the term, were the only policy, then the merit of a Foreign Minister would be in exact proportion to his inactivity, and the best Foreign Minister possible would be one who was always asleep. But, in the dangerous Luxembourg question Lord Stanley *did* intervene; and it was due, in a great measure, to his vigilance and activity that, at the critical period when that question arose, Europe was saved from war.

THE BRECON BOROUGH ELECTION.—Another sitting of the magistrates of this borough has been held to hear the charges of bribery preferred against the Conservatives, and a further remand of those implicated was determined upon. The solicitors engaged for the defeated Liberal candidate, Mr. H. Powell Price, have abundant evidence of bribery having been very extensively resorted to in order to secure a majority for the Conservatives, and it is understood that a petition will be presented against Mr. Gwyn's return.

MR. JAMES ASHBURY, the owner of the English yacht *Cambria*, which defeated the *Sappho* in England last summer, has sent a note to the New York Yacht Club, challenging all America to a yacht-race for the Queen's cup, won by the yacht *America* in 1851. In the event of the *Cambria* losing the race, or rather series of races proposed, Mr. Ashbury would hand over to the New York Yacht Club, or to the owner of the winning vessel, a cup valued at 100 gns. The challenge sent by Mr. Ashbury includes a race across the Atlantic to New York for a cup or service of silver valued at £250, and afterwards round Long Island, two races out of three over this course to decide the question of championship and the possession of the cup won by the *America*.

GIFT OF LIFE-BOAT TO THE KING OF SWEDEN.—Mr. James Gunston Chillingworth, sole surviving partner of the firm of W. Chillingworth and Son, wine merchants to her Majesty, 43, Great Tower-street, London, has just presented to the Swedish nation, through his Majesty the King, a life-boat, completely fitted with all stores, as an acknowledgment for the universal kindness shown him during his recent visit to Stockholm and other parts, and for the courteous reception accorded him by his Majesty. The life-boat was built by Messrs. Forrest and Son, the builders to the National Life-Boat Institution, and is named the *William and Anne Chillingworth*, in memory of Mr. James Chillingworth's late father and mother. The boat left London for Gothenburg, by the *Mary*, last Saturday.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—On Thursday a meeting of this institution was held at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Baring, Esq., M.P., F.R.S., in the chair. Richard Lewis, Esq., the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, rewards amounting to £159 were ordered to be given to the crews of life-boats of the society for their services during recent storms. The *Tramore* life-boat rescued, after considerable difficulty, the crew of seventeen men of the Austrian barque *Mea*. The *Witherssea* life-boat saved the crew of five men of the smack *Mary*, of Hull. The *Cullercoats* life-boat rescued the crew of eight men of the brig *Robert and Sarah*, of Blyth. The *Mundesley* life-boat saved the crew of seven men of the boat of the brig *Rochdale*, of London. The *Yonchal* life-boat also succeeded in rescuing the crew of three men from the schooner *Mary Jane*, of Padstow. The *Caistor* life-boat likewise saved the crew of nine men of the barque *Anne Scott*, of Arbroath. The *Wexford* life-boat, with the assistance of a steam-tug, saved from destruction the barque *Mauda*, of Liverpool. The *St. Andrews* life-boat also saved the smack *Canton*, of Scarborough, and her crew of four men. The life-boats of the institution at New Brighton, Donna Nook, Portcawl, Kircudbright, Great Yarmouth, Sunderland, Hayle, North Deal, Sutton, and Tynemouth, had also rendered various services during the recent stormy weather. The silver medal of the institution was voted to John Freeny, in acknowledgment of his gallant and persevering services in assisting to save the crew of the schooner *Blue Vein*, of Portmadoc, which, during a strong gale, stranded opposite Ballybrack railway station, on Sept. 25. A legacy of £100 had been received by the institution from the executors of the late David Sinclair, Esq., who had acted as honorary secretary of the Thurso branch many years. Also £200, legacy of the late William Dangar, Esq., of Bishopsgate-street; £100 from the late R. S. Fyde, Esq., of Morcott Hall; and £50 from the late Mrs. Essex, of Humshaugh, Northumberland. The thanks of the institution were ordered to be given to Benjamin Heape, Esq., of Northwood, Manchester, in acknowledgment of his gift of the life-boat of *Mary Heape*, about to be sent to Kimmridge, on the coast of Dorset. A communication was read from Count Edmund Batthyany stating his intention to present a life-boat to the institution in memory of his late daughter, who was his only child. Life-boats had been sent, during the past month, to Milford, Fraserburgh, and Ramsey. The Turkish Government had ordered four life-boats, on the plan of the institution, to be built by the Messrs. Forrest, of Limehouse. Reports were read from the inspector and the assistant inspector of life-boats of the institution on their recent visits to the coast. Payments amounting to £1606 were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments, making a total of £14,700 expended by the institution on its 189 life-boat stations during the eleven months of the present year. It had also, during the same period, contributed to the rescue of 692 lives from various wrecks. Altogether this noble society had contributed, from its establishment, to the saving of 17,679 lives from shipwreck. It is hoped that the British public will continue to strengthen the hands of the Life-Boat Society at this stormy period, when its life-boats are engaged, day and night, in saving life from wrecks.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, has granted a pension of £100 a year to Mr. John Finlay Neilson, in consideration of his diligent services as a Parliamentary reporter.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES arrived in Copenhagen on Sunday morning, and were met at the railway station by the King of Denmark.

THE PRINCE ROYAL OF BELGIUM, it is reported by his medical attendants, is now in a more hopeful state of health. It is thought that the patient may completely recover if removed to a milder climate; and his removal will take place as soon as he becomes a little stronger.

MRS. DISRAELI, the wife of the Premier, has been created a Peeress in her own right, with remainder to heirs male. The title chosen is Viscountess Beaconsfield, of Beaconsfield, in the county of Buckingham.

THE RIGHT HON. W. E. GLADSTONE, M.P., having been summoned to Windsor by her Majesty, arrived at the castle on Thursday afternoon to receive the Queen's commands as to forming an Administration.

SIR JOHN PAKINGTON has appointed Captain Brome, late governor of the Military Prison at Gibraltar, to the governorship of the Military Prison at Weedon, vacant by the death of Captain Boyle.

LORD MONCK, it is said, has received a letter from the Queen, through the Duke of Buckingham, complimenting him on his administration in Canada.

SIR JOHN GRAY, M.P., was, on Tuesday, elected Lord Mayor of Dublin for next year, the Conservatives in the Town Council dissenting.

MR. J. B. SMITH, M.P. for Stockport, will, it is rumoured, retire in order to provide a seat for Mr. Milner Gibson.

SIR BERNARD BURKE has been made a Companion of the Order of the Bath.

PROFESSOR BRUCKE has been chosen Dean of the Faculty of Medicine in the University of Vienna, the first time in the history of the institution that a Protestant has held the office.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ROSTOCK has conferred upon Mr. J. E. Carpenter the degree of M.A. and Doctor of Philosophy, in recognition of his literary abilities.

THE FRENCH WAR-SCHOONER LA LEVRETTE has passed on her way to Mayotte through the Suez Canal, in order to reach her destination by the Red Sea.

THE GREAT BOAT-RACE between Kelley and Saddler, for the sum of £400, was rowed on Tuesday between Putney and Mortlake. The contest resulted in a victory for Kelley.

MARTHA BURGESS, a cook in service at Tunbridge Wells, has met her death by drinking a mixture of vitriol and water. It was thought that she had mistaken it for gin, and the jury therefore found a verdict of "Accidental death."

A SEVERE SNOWSTORM has taken place in Bohemia, and considerable damage has been done. In the forest of the Prince of Liechtenstein more than nine thousand large trees were much damaged within a comparatively limited area.

THE PASSENGER-SHIP AUSTRALIAN, from Sydney for London, was totally wrecked on Oct. 22. The crew and passengers, as well as 3112 oz. of gold, were saved.

A FINE ARTS AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION will be opened, on Monday next, in the new Mechanics' Institution, Bolton. Mr. A. Trollope will preside at the opening.

A CONGREGATIONALIST MINISTER of some note in South London has just died—the Rev. R. W. Betts, of Hanover Chapel, Peckham. Mr. Betts was assistant to the late Dr. Collyer, and succeeded him.

AN EXTENSIVE AND VALUABLE BED OF SLATE, extending over several hundred acres, has been discovered close to the seashore at Dunarmin, in the extreme west of Kerry, and on the estate of Lord Ventry. Competent authorities pronounce the material to be of the best quality.

THE Morning Summary, a Tory and High Church paper, only two or three weeks old, is no more. Its patrons must therefore be contented with the older prints of that party. A sad fatality has been at work, too, among the comic publications. The *Censor*, *Toby*, and *Banter* have disappeared, but the world seems none the gloomier.

MR. REVERDY JOHNSON visited Birmingham on Wednesday, and received a very hearty welcome. Addresses were presented to him by the Chamber of Commerce and the Town Council in the afternoon, and in the evening he was entertained at a banquet, held under the presidency of Mr. George Dixon, M.P. Mr. Bright was present, and addressed the assembled company.

AT COBBOURG (on the north shore of Lake Ontario), on Nov. 1, the waters of the lake receded from 50 ft. to 100 ft. from the usual water-mark, returning again rapidly with a loud rushing sound, similar to that heard when the tide is coming in on the east coast. The ebbing and flowing were repeated a number of times for the space of three quarters of an hour.

MR. ALLAN, manager of the Worcester Engine Company, has obtained a verdict for £2650 against the London and North-Western Railway Company for injuries sustained in a collision at Birmingham in January, 1867.

CAPTAIN GEORGE W. WATSON, of the troop-ship *Crocodile*, reports a collision between that ship and the British barque *John Dwyer*. The barque sank so quickly after she was struck that it was impossible to save more than eight out of her crew of twelve men.

THE "PHORMIO" OF TERENCE will be performed by the Westminster Queen's Scholars, as usual, in the Dormitory, on the evenings of Thursday, Dec. 10; Tuesday, Dec. 15; and Thursday, Dec. 17.

THE FRENCH GUN FACTORIES, even those of the State, having concluded the fabrication of the chassapots, are working actively on the improved system of weapons adopted by Austria, and the manufacturers are to furnish the Emperor Francis Joseph's Government with 600,000 muskets by April 1.

THE LONG LINE OF HOUSES opposite to the General Post Office, in St. Martin's-le-Grand, will shortly be removed, the whole of the property having been purchased for the Government. On the site now occupied by the houses, buildings will be erected for Post Office purposes, the increase of business having rendered more extended accommodation absolutely necessary.

THE HOSPICE OF ST. GOTHARD, the most frequented in Switzerland, received and entertained 8574 travellers during the year ending Oct. 1, 1868. It gave medical attention to forty-seven persons partly ill and partly frozen; 21,791 rations of bread; and many articles of clothing, especially shoes and socks, were distributed. The total expenditure was 9057l.

THE FOLLOWING LEGAL APPOINTMENTS have been made by the Irish Government:—Mr. Charles Shaw, Q.C., has been appointed Chairman of the county of Monaghan; Mr. Lendrick, Q.C., has resigned the Chairmanship of the county of Wicklow; Mr. James P. Hamilton, Chairman of the county of Carlow, will be transferred to that county from Wicklow; and Mr. James Wall, Q.C., will be appointed to the Chairmanship of the county of Carlow.

THE DECORATIONS OF BARON DE BEUST, which had been stolen, have been recovered. They were pledged with an old curiosity dealer, for 250 ll., by a man who represented himself as a valet to a high personage. As a reward of 200 thalers was promised for the discovery of the thief, the dealer gave information to the police. None of the objects are missing; but the criminal has not been found.

THE WHOLE OF THE STATUES are now placed in their respective niches in the ornamental arcade facing the Speaker's residence in New Palace-yard, the following order—viz., Alfred the Great, William the Conqueror, Henry II., King John, Henry VIII., and William III. (Prince of Orange). The two last were placed on their pedestals on Tuesday morning. These six statues are all the work of foreign sculptors.

THE BIRMINGHAM CATTLE AND POULTRY EXHIBITION was opened on Monday. There is a large increase in the entries of cattle, and the quality of the animals shows a marked superiority. The sheep classes are very fairly filled, and there is the usual grand display of poultry, in 2747 pens. For the Smithfield Club Cattle Show, which opens to the public on Tuesday, the aggregate amount of prizes reaches the sum of £2250.

THE SALE OF THE MORN JEWELS AT PARIS lasted two days, and produced a total of 550,000f. Few of the gems were sold for less than 10 to 25 per cent more than they were valued at fifteen years ago. A *Riviere*, bought in 1837 for 72,000f., fetched 104,000f. Three brilliants, which cost 60,000f. in 1861, went for 94,000f. For a suite of turquoises and emeralds 33,000f. was given, and 27,000f. for six pendants of pearls of different sizes.

ROBERT BURTON, a driver in Monkwearmouth pit, was, on Monday, charged before the Sunderland magistrates with a breach of the Colliery Act. It was proved that defendant, while in the pit, opened his safety-lamp and lighted his pipe. He was cautioned, but said it would do no harm, and repeated the offence. Defendant admitted his guilt, and was sentenced to a fine of 20s. and costs, or one month's imprisonment.

THE LIVERPOOL CORPORATION recently purchased a steam-roller for the purpose of levelling and smoothing newly made and mended roads. In that capacity the monster, locally known as the "demon crusher," has been a great success; but it has, unfortunately, so injured the network of gas and water pipes in the streets in which it has been used, that the corporate authorities find that they must either greatly decrease its weight, or cease using it altogether.

THE ENGINEER AND RAILWAY VOLUNTEER STAFF CORPS was officially inspected last Saturday by General Frome, R.E., Director-General of Fortifications, &c. In the evening the Lieutenant-Colonel commanding and the members of the corps had the honour of entertaining at dinner, at the Palace Hotel, Buckingham-gate, the Right Hon. Sir John Pakington, G.C.B., M.P., Secretary of State for War, General Frome, R.E., the inspecting officer; Lieutenant-Colonel Grant, Assistant Quartermaster-General; Captain Douglas Galton, C.B., Assistant Under-Secretary for War; and Lieutenant-Colonel Coddington, A.D.C.

THE LOUNGER.

LEEDS returns Mr. Edward Baines—as Leeds will do, if it be wise, as often as Mr. Baines is willing to be returned. With Mr. Baines Leeds sends Mr. Wheelhouse (C), a barrister-at-law of good standing, but not at all likely to astonish the House. Mr. Wheelhouse is the minority member. Mr. Edward Baines's proper colleague is Mr. Carter, alderman and coal merchant. This gentleman is a remarkable man, and perhaps may astonish the House. He began life as a worker in a colliery, and by his own unaided ability has risen to be a merchant, alderman, and member of Parliament. He has had but little school education, but from assiduously reading bluebooks he has got to be fairly instructed in politics. He is, too, a fluent speaker, and is never at a loss for a word, whether the word be the right one or not. He speaks with the real Yorkshire burr; has not an H in his vocabulary; and, if any preceding speaker says anything with which he (Mr. Carter) cannot agree, he says "I am of the contrary opinion." His manner is energetic, even forcible; and takes with the Leeds clothweavers. He is in politics a Radical of the Radicals—bold, defiant: denouncing the Church, denouncing the State, the Army, the Navy—denouncing, indeed, everything. He is president of the Leeds branch of the Reform League, and is said to be the only member of that illustrious association returned to Parliament. All hail, I, for one, say to Mr. Alderman Carter! welcome to the House. At present there is a prospect that this Parliament will be more of a dead level of sameness than the last. Here, however, is a man who, to say the least, has individualism. Leicestershire North returns, of course, Lord John Manners; and with him sends us, instead of Mr. Hartopp (L), a Mr. Clowes (C), formerly Lieutenant-Colonel in the Dragon Guards. Leicestershire South again elects Lord Curzon, Earl Howe's eldest son, who is a handsome man, if no more; but, instead of Mr. Tertius Paget (L), sends Mr. Albert Pell (C), son of a Bankruptcy Judge. Lincoln sends back to his work of Admiralty reform Mr. Charles Seely (L), but exchanges Mr. Henegay (L) for Mr. Palmer, Chancery barrister, who calls himself a working man's member. Lincolnshire Mid—a new division—has chosen Mr. H. Chaplin, a county magnate, and Colonel Amcoats, also a county magnate. Lincolnshire South adheres to Mr. Erle Welby (C), but forsakes Colonel Packe (L) for Mr. Turner (C), who represented Grantham for a month or two last session. Mr. Horsfall (C), who long represented Liverpool, retired; his seat Lord Sandon (C) takes—a very liberal Conservative. I take his Lordship to be. The minority member is Mr. Rathbone (L), a name known and respected in Liverpool for a century. Lynn keeps Lord Stanley, but associates with him Mr. Bourke, Lord Mayo's brother (C), instead of Sir T. Fowell Buxton. Old Mr. Brocklehurst (L) has represented Macclesfield since it was made a borough, in 1832. He is *hors de combat*, and his son (L) succeeds him. The second member is Mr. Chadwick (L), taking the place of Edward Egerton (C). At Maldon the redoubtable Mr. Sandford, late Peacock (C), was beaten by a local plough-maker named Benthall (L). I do not think he can do much more than make ploughs, and as Parliament has no need of that implement, not much, intellectually, will be gained by this change. Maldon, though, is doomed; so no matter. Malmesbury audaciously turned its back upon Lord Andover, though his Lordship lives in the neighbourhood, and took up with a commoner named Powell (C). Probably the question who spent most money in the town was that on which the election turned, for Mr. Powell is also a neighbour. Manchester returns as its minority candidate Mr. Birley (C), cotton-spinner, of w.o.g. politics, but otherwise a worthy and charitable man. He laid aside his carriage when the cotton famine raged that he might better help the poor weavers and spinners. The old members, Bazley and Jacob Bright, are both returned. Marlow rejected the father of the House, Colonel Peers Williams (C), and took up with one F. O. Wetherhead (C). Let us hope this change is for the better; for the worse it cannot be, the Colonel having been a very negligent member. He was one of our stormy petrels, never appearing except when there was a party contest ahead. Though he represented Marlow thirty-six years, it is doubtful whether, altogether, he sat in the House thirty-six days. Middlesbrough, just enfranchised, sends its founder, Mr. Bolckow (L), a German, who had to get naturalised specially to enable him to stand. Twice since the Reform Bill of 1832 Middlesex has returned a Conservative; and now it has done so again. And why? Because Middlesex is really Conservative? No; but because two gentlemen played the fool. Mr. Labouchere is justly punished; but I much think the first and greatest offender is the one unpunished. In truth, they both deserved to be kicked out. Lord G. Hamilton, fledgling out of the Abercorn nest, got the seat; foxlike, he stole the carcass over which the two old members were quarrelling. Monmouth rebelled against Crawshaw Bailey (C), its Iron King, and sent Sir John Ramsden (L). And no wonder; a mere walking money-bag is the Iron King. Lord Arthur Clinton being *non est inventus*, Mr. Denison (L), Speaker's nephew and Bishop Denison's son, got elected for Newark. North-East Norfolk (a new division) returns Hon. Mr. Walpole (C), son of the Earl of Orford; and has also sent us Sir E. Lacon (C), the Yarmouth taint upon him notwithstanding. Northallerton has chosen "Neighbour" Hutton (C). I know nothing more of the gentleman than that he lives near Northallerton. Why was not Northallerton disfranchised? Its population last census was 4735. In 1865 Mr. Arthur Mills was elected; in 1866 he was unseated on petition, and the Hon. Egremont Lascelles, son of the Earl of Harewood, was returned. Mr. Lascelles seems to have been tired of his honour, and the Earl has tossed it to Mr. Hutton. The Duke of Northumberland sends us for North Northumberland Earl Percy, his son and heir; and Mr. Ridley, son of Sir Matthew White Ridley, whom the Duke allowed to represent the division in last Parliament. Sir Henry Stracey, who formerly represented disfranchised Yarmouth, has been chosen to represent Norwich. Against Sir Henry the first petition of the general election has been presented, if that be any honour. Terrific-looking man is Sir Henry. When he revived the attack upon Mr. Stansfeld, charging him with consorting with Mazzini, who gave somebody a dagger to assassinate somebody, Bernal Osborne rose and said, "Now steps the tragedy-king on to the stage with the dagger and the bowl." He not only speaks his part but looks it. Nottingham has, to her disgrace, rejected the inimitable Bernal, and given us the gay and gallant Lothario Sir Robert Clifton and a Mr. Wright, Colonel of volunteers. The Speaker of the House was, last Parliament, associated in the representation of North Nottinghamshire with Lord Edward Clinton (L), and his Lordship might have been returned again had the great Duke of Portland remained asleep, as he has been for many years. But Mr. Gladstone's attack upon the Irish Church scared him in his slumbers. He awoke, and uttered a loud growl. This encouraged Mr. Smith, banker (of the firm of Smith, Payne, and Smith), at the last moment to appear in the field; and, as he was supported by the great Duke, Lord Edward had no chance. Mr. Speaker's seat was safe from attack, as he married the great Duke's sister. Oxford city rejoices in Mr. Cardwell and Vernon Harcourt, alias "Historicus." Heaven grant that the speeches of the latter may not be as long as his letters! Beneath the lowest deep a lower deep—Oxford University rejected Mr. Gladstone for Mr. Hardy; since then it has refused learned, eloquent Mr. Roundell Palmer, and chosen dull, commonplace Mr. Mowbray. Perhaps, however, Mr. Mowbray will represent the University more exactly than Sir Roundell could. Penryn and Falmouth have changed their minds entirely. They were in the last Parliament represented by Samuel Gurney (L) and Jervoise Smith (L), son of John Abel Smith; but both have been sent to the right about, and the boroughs now rejoice in two Conservatives—to wit, Mr. Fowler, a banker, of the firm of Dimsdale and Co.; and Mr. Eastwick, a local gun. Very joyous was Mr. J. A. Smith to see his son in Parliament; but now both father and son are in the cold. Verily, the "wilters" are avenged! No defeated candidate will be more mortified than poor Mr. Hankey, late M.P. for Peterborough. He was so proud of his honours. Ruth-

less Peterborough has cut him adrift, and given his seat to a Mr. Wells, a neighbour. Mr. Hankey opined that Whalley might go, but did not dream that he himself should be rejected. *Sic transit!* Poole had two members. By the Reform Act one was amputated. Mr. Waring (L), a great contractor, returned in 1865, claimed the one seat. But, lo! there came a Mr. Guest (C)—son of Sir Ivor Guest, Bart.—and asked for the prize, and Poole awarded it to the Baronet's son. Portsmouth has exchanged Sergeant Gaselee (L) for Sir James Elphinstone (C). No thanks to Portsmouth for that. The learned Sergeant was at times tiresome, but always amusing; the Baronet is always tiresome, never amusing. Preston caught the Lancashire fever, and in its delirium refused Lord Edward Howard (C), and chose a Mr. Hermon (C), a local cotton-spinner. Preston has always been fickle—wavering between Liberal and Conservative politics; a sort of political hybrid is Preston. Lately, though, large manufacturing town as it is, with its 100,000 people, it has inclined more decidedly to Toryism. Rye has rejoiced the Home Secretary by returning his son. St. Ives (Cornwall) scared away Mr. Pauli (C), and embraced Mr. Magniac (L), of the firm of Matheson and Co., the frightfully rich China merchants in the City, who when they lose a quarter of a million are no more concerned about it than I should be if I were to lose half a crown. Salford has, wonderful to relate, returned two Tories—Crawley, barrister, and Charley, alderman of the borough—rejecting Mr. Cheetham, the old respectable member, and Mr. Rawson, of the *Manchester Examiner*. Mr. Marsh was convicted of flagrant adultery, and had to evacuate Salisbury, which in his place promoted Dr. Lush (L), alderman, ex-mayor, and proprietor of Fisherton Lunatic Asylum. Perhaps the Doctor, seeing that the Conservative party is getting rather wild, has an eye to business. Sandwich has again made a change. Sandwich often makes changes. In 1865, Capper, a City man, beat Brassey. This year Brassey beats Capper. Brassey is the contractor, Brassey was in the House once before; but, having been too lavish of his sovereigns, of which he is said to have tons, he, after just looking round, had to "absquatulate." And so Sheffield has really discharged Roebuck! Well, all his faults notwithstanding, I am sorry to lose him. Poor Roebuck! What with this cutting dismissal, exchange banks, and other mishaps, it is to be feared that his old age will not be pleasant. Mr. Mundella, Roebuck's substitute, is well known. Old Mr. Hadfield, though in his ninth decade, comes back, and seems to flourish still like a green bay-tree. Mind you, there are few more useful men in the House of Commons than old Mr. Hadfield. Mr. Figgins, the typefounder, has got in for Shrewsbury, and, sorrow to him, is a Tory. I hold that all Tory printers, typefounders, papermakers, and all Tories who assist in spreading knowledge, are anomalies. There was a fight in South Shropshire between Jasper More (L) and Colonel Corbett (C), and Jasper had to go to the wall. Colonel Corbett! does anybody know him? I do not. In Somersetshire East, Mr. Richard Bright (C) and Major (Militia Major) Allen supplant the old members, Ralph Neville Grenville (C) and Richard Horner Paget (C); but how or why, I know not; nor does it matter to any mortal man under the sun, I opine. Now, readers, you must give me breathing after this long gallop.

Please to note this fact, just learned: there are about 222 members in this Parliament who were not in the last.

"Rimmel's Almanac" for 1869 has just made its appearance, and is as tasteful, richly coloured, and sweetly-scented as its predecessors. National sports and pastimes furnish the subjects of illustration this year; and among the sports delineated we have Sledging in Russia, Masquerading in Italy, Racing in England, Bull-fighting in Spain, Tiger-hunting in India, and Stag-hunting in France. Altogether, a very pretty little morcean is "Rimmel's Almanac for 1869," and I hope it will have many as pleasant successors.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

Perhaps, Mr. Editor, you will allow me, before passing on to the magazines, to correct a slip of the pen which I made last week in noticing Mr. Moon's book on bad English. I spoke of a *subadmiral* with respect to *tense*, when I meant *number*. The error was obvious, but it did not strike me till too late.

Among the Christmas numbers, the *Belgravia Annual* is certainly one that gives plenty for the money; and, in point of sheer force and "creepiness," the stories it contains take high rank. Not to go into particulars too much, when it is plain every contributor has been on his mettle, I will simply say that Mrs. G. Linneus Banks's "Wraith-Haunted" and Miss Braddon's "Christmas in Possession" are both capital, the former for its intense "creepiness" (don't read it at bedtime), and the latter for its naturalness, good-feeling, and humour.

I have only just got the Christmas number of *Tinsley's*—"A Stable for Nightmares;" but that also appears to be a wonderful shilling's-worth, and to be full of "creepy" stories. Mr. Yates is so admirable an editor for the purposes of a Christmas number that I have not a doubt the tales are as full of power as they look. The illustrations are nearly alarming in their promise—promise of horrors, I mean.

Quieter, perhaps more varied, and naturally more ladylike, is *Warne's Home Annual*, which is edited by Mrs. Valentine. Besides the stories, there are music, charades, and Christmas magic.

There is one more Christmas number before me—*Cast Ashore on Christmas Eve*, by the Authors of "The Registered Letter," and, at a hasty glance, it seems to deserve a kind word. It is very cheap and unpretending, at all events.

Among the magazines proper the *Gentleman's* attracts the eye at once by the circumstance that the ex-M.P. contributes a capital paper on three great speakers of the House of Commons—Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Bright, and Mr. Lowe. He gives the palm in oratory, pure and simple, to Mr. Gladstone; and he is right. Mr. Lowe is, of course, no orator at all. I can sincerely recommend this paper as very informing and discriminating. In the "Notes" at the end there is one of much interest upon a topic not new—namely, the very high pitch at which we tune our instruments in public orchestras in England. The reason that the necessary descent from C soprano, with 546 vibrations (the present orchestral standard), to C, 522, which is ten vibrations higher than Handel's C, is alleged to be our old enemy—vested interests. Some of the expensive instruments already in use would have to be lowered in pitch. But this, of course, applies only to keyed-instruments; and I do not see why the case should be, as the *Gentleman's* calls it, a "hopeless" one.

The second number of the new children's magazine, *Good Words for the Young*, is certainly not inferior to the first. "The Schooner" is a charming poem, and "Hoity-Toity, the Ouphe of the Wood," by Charles Camden, is as good, in one vein, as his "Lonely Jane" was in another. Mr. Kingsley, Mr. Gilbert, and the editor, Dr. Macleod, continue, each, his own serial contribution. Warm praise must be bestowed upon the two pictures opposite page 89.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

THE NEW GLOBE Theatre, which opened last Saturday, is in every respect a satisfactory addition to the amusements of the metropolis. It is a very pretty, unpretending little theatre, with no striking originality about it, save that the seats are all comfortable, and every seat commands a good view of the stage. It is tastefully decorated and provided with an effective act-drop, painted, very hurriedly, by Messrs. Telbin; the original act-drop painted by them having been destroyed in an unfortunate fire which occurred at Messrs. Grieve and Telbin's painting-room a fortnight since. The theatre has commenced its career auspiciously. Mr. Byron's new comedy, "Cyril's Success," is undoubtedly very cleverly written. Its construction is not good (except in the third act), and its story is improbable; but the piece is written with such freshness, and the characters are so ingeniously conceived, that these faults are not likely to be very seriously regarded by the ordinary play-going public. It is unnecessary that I should go at length into the plot; it is sufficient to say that the story turns upon the flight of Mrs. Cuthbert (the wife of a successful dramatist) from her husband's

home, in consequence of her finding in his drawing-room a love-letter, which she hastily supposes to have been written to him, whereas, in point of fact, it was addressed to a certain gallant Major. The husband believes that his wife has eloped with the Major, and the Major, by an ingenious complication, is made to believe that Mr. Cuthbert is cultivating an intrigue with a fascinating widow whom the Major intends to marry, and who is, indeed, the writer of the dropped note. A duel takes place between the Major and the Dramatist, in which the Major is wounded—mortally, it is at first supposed, although he eventually recovers. The Dramatist is so affected at the result of the duel that he is unable to pursue his vocation, and he is consequently reduced (rather too suddenly) to abject poverty. At this point an explanation takes place between him and his wife; the Major turns up alive and well, ready to apologise for his affront to Cyril, and to marry the blooming widow who has been the innocent cause of the misunderstanding. It will be seen that there is little originality in the bare story of the piece—the wife's flight is utterly unnatural; so also is the sudden reduction of a marvellously prosperous author to abject poverty in a few months. Moreover, the duel is an unnatural incident in a story which professes to give a faithful replica of modern English life. But the excellence of the dialogue and the ingenious complication of the third act, together, be it remembered, with the admirable manner in which the piece is played by the leading members of the company, are more than a fair set-off to the drawbacks I have alluded to. With the single exception of "Caste," I do not remember to have heard a more brightly-written comedy of modern life. It is a pity that Mr. Byron is not likely to see his piece at the outset of its career (he is acting in Manchester), or he would at once perceive how it would benefit by a little judicious excision here and there. It is too late, now, to knock the first and second acts into one, but it might, with a little ingenuity, have been managed when the piece was written. The only advantageous effect of their separation is that it gives an idea of the lapse of time that must occur during Mrs. Cuthbert's visit to the opera; but it was not necessary to the plot that she should go to the opera at all—it was only necessary to show a certain tinge of neglect in her husband's conduct towards her, and that the jealousy thereby excited in her mind was fed by the discovery of a love-letter, apparently addressed to her husband, but actually addressed to someone else. It surely cannot require two acts in order to place this effectively before the audience. The "front scene" in the fourth act should be incorporated with the scene that follows it. The piece is, as I have said, very well played. Mr. Clarke, as a misanthropic journalist; Miss Henrade, as the jealous wife; Mrs. Stephens, as a garrulous, meddlesome, but good-hearted, old school-mistress; and Miss Hughes, as a fascinating widow, are all well suited to the parts assigned to them. Mr. Vernon is a satisfactory representative of the successful Dramatist; but he and a young nobleman in the piece (I forget his stage name), and, indeed, nearly all actors who play young gentlemen, should learn that patent leather boots by daylight (particularly when accompanied, as they were in the nobleman's case, by fawn-coloured straps) are not *bon ton*. But the most surprising performance in the piece was certainly Miss Maggie Brennan's portraiture of a young gentleman of good birth and breeding—the Hon. Fred. Titebooy—who is merely accessory to the plot, but who, nevertheless, through her admirable acting, becomes one of the most prominent characters in the piece. I remember seeing this young lady (who is new to London) in a burlesque at Liverpool nearly two years since, and her performance on Saturday night last fully bore out the promise that she gave on the former occasion.

A pleasant little piece from Mr. Halliday's pen has been successfully produced at the NEW ROYALTY. The piece is called "The Loving Cup," and professes—justly, no doubt—to be original. The plot is slight, not to say meagre; but it is very pleasantly acted by Miss Oliver and her company, and will probably occupy her stage for some time to come. The story of the piece is, shortly, as follows:—Lucy Leigh and Lizzie Latimer are two country barmaids. Lucy is attached to a penniless young man, Ned Thornton. Lizzie is a light-hearted flirt, who is not particularly devoted to anyone. Their employer, Mr. Hudson (Mr. Kenward), is the victim of the matrimonial projects of his housekeeper, Mrs. Driver (Mrs. Rouse); and this wicked old woman, jealous of the superior attractions of Lucy, contrives to fix on her lover the suspicion of having stolen from Mr. Hudson's premises a valuable silver cup. Ned Thornton has just sailed for New York when the discovery of the apparent theft is made; and Lucy, to shield her lover, takes the crime upon her own shoulders, and she is accordingly driven from the inn. In the second act Mrs. Driver has married Mr. Hudson, and reduced him to beggary, and the inn has come into the possession of the other barmaid, Lizzie. Ned Thornton returns, with plenty of money, to marry Lucy, and finds her reduced to penury. He learns with horror that the cause of her poverty is the suspicion of the crime which everyone charged him with until she took it upon herself; and he is on the point of enlisting in the ranks of her accusers, when a discovery is made that the "loving cup" was not stolen at all, but simply concealed by Mrs. Driver in a hollow tree. The story is improbable enough, but it is very nicely written, and very well acted. Miss Oliver, in playing the jolly barmaid, and afterwards the jolly landlady, draws largely upon that wonderful stock of merriment with which this accomplished actress is always charged. Mr. Dewar is exactly fitted with the part of a hulking, loafing, pothouse philosopher—a character that may form no unworthy pendant to his Tom Stylus. Mr. Danvers creates much laughter as a jerky gent who eventually turns up as a beggar, and finally marries Lizzie Latimer. Miss C. Thompson is a promising young actress, and, with a little more experience, will develop into a very useful member of this company. The burlesque, "Richard III.," has been materially improved by condensation, and the omission of certain pantomimic features which excited much disapprobation on the first night.

MR. SOTHERN has just concluded an engagement to appear in New York, at Booth's New Theatre, on Oct. 4 next. His terms are the highest ever yet offered to a "star" visiting the United States. He commences his farewell performances at the Haymarket in May next.

CRYSTAL PALACE CONCERTS.—Beethoven's sacred cantata (or oratorio "The Mount of Olives") formed the main feature of the Crystal Palace Concert last Saturday. This great work, which combines the sublime and the beautiful in a degree unequalled by anyone save only by Handel himself, has never been as well known as it ought to be to the English public. It is a sacred drama; and is so dramatic, not only in the style of the music, but in the form and structure of the poem, the characters introduced (of whom the Divine Saviour himself is one), and the incidents of the piece, that it demands the accessories of the stage for its complete performance; and, as it cannot have these in this country, it has either been neglected altogether or has been given with alterations detrimental to its effect. At the Crystal Palace, on Saturday, it was performed with great power, and made a profound impression. The solo performers were Madame Lemmens-Sherington, Mr. W. H. Cummings, and Mr. Lewis Thomas. The music of the tenor part is intended to be sung by the representative of a character too sacred, in our ideas, to be introduced. This was a disadvantage to the singer; but Mr. Cummings got over it with ability, and the performance of the solos as well as the choruses was excellent throughout.

THE SPEAKER AND THE SHERIFF.—The Right Hon. J. E. Denison has addressed a letter to Mr. J. Taylor, High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire, explaining his reasons for not proposing a vote of thanks to that gentleman at the declaration of the poll. Mr. Denison complains that the High Sheriff at the declaration of the poll for South Notts at Newark on the 16th ult., the earliest fixed the nomination for the borough was to be held on the day possible, though the nomination for the north division was fixed for some morning, while the nomination for the north should not have been the order between the south division and the north should not have been changed, and the nomination at Mansfield to interfere with the county election. It was the duty of the Sheriff, he contends, to fix the time for holding his court upon distinct public grounds, and not to favour the objects of any individual or any party. "And," Mr. Denison concludes, "if you are pleased to give me an assurance that the days fixed for the nominations were fixed on public grounds, with concert on the part of the Deputy Sheriff with others, I should at once be prepared to express my regret at not having extended to you the courtesy usually extended to those holding your high office."

THE NEW ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

THE Right Hon. and Right Rev. Archibald Campbell Tait, D.C.L., who has been raised to the highest position in the English Church, was born on Dec. 22, 1811, and is the fifth and youngest son of the late Mr. Crawford Tait, writer to the signet, of Harvieston, in the county of Clackmannan. His mother was a daughter of the late Sir Islay Campbell, Bart., of Succoth, afterwards Lord Succoth, a title which he chose on being appointed Lord President of the Court of Session. He was educated at the High School, and afterwards at the academy at Edinburgh, under Archdeacon Williams. In 1827 he went to the University of Glasgow, where he attended the lectures of the late Sir Daniel K. Sandford and Mr. Buchanan. He was elected in 1830, as an Exhibitioner on Snell's foundation, to Balliol College, Oxford, of which he became successively Scholar, Fellow, and Tutor, and where he graduated B.A. in first-class honours. He subsequently became a public examiner of the University. Whilst residing at Oxford in his capacity as college tutor he took a prominent part in opposing the spread of Tractarian principles, and was one of the "four tutors who first drew the attention of the University authorities to the celebrated Tract No. 90, written by Mr. Newman for the purpose of showing that the Thirty-nine Articles of the Established Church could be honestly subscribed by those who held Roman Catholic doctrines." His opposition, however, to this school of theology was always courteous and open, and compatible with the most sincere respect for and personal attachment to those by whom such views were entertained. The circumstance of Mr. Tait's being in holy orders proved, in the then state of the law, an obstacle to his appointment, in 1838, as Sir D. K. Sandford's successor in the Greek chair at Glasgow. The death of Dr. Arnold, however, in 1842, opened to him a field of greater usefulness. He was selected to fill the important office of Head Master of Rugby School, where he remained eight years. While there he married a daughter of the late Venerable Archdeacon Spooner, brother of the member for Warwickshire and uncle to the Bishop of Oxford. A severe illness, occasioned by over exertion in his arduous post, was probably one reason why Dr. Tait accepted from Lord John Russell's Government, in April, 1850, the Deanery of Carlisle. But, to a man of his mental activity and conscientious devotion to his sacred calling, the cathedral close could be no scene of indolent retirement. He originated and himself conducted nearly every Sunday an additional pulpit service, besides undertaking an amount of labour in the way of visiting the poor, instructing the young and ignorant, and superintending the public charities of a large town, seldom equalled by the most hard-working parish clergyman. He was also an active member of the Oxford University Commission. The late Dr. Blomfield having resigned the see of London, under a special Act of Parliament, in August, 1856, Dr. Tait was nominated to the vacancy. He is little known as an author, his acknowledged publications being confined to two volumes of sermons preached either at Oxford or in the school-chapel at Rugby, and a work entitled "The Dangers and Safeguards of Theology," with remarks on the celebrated "Essays and Reviews" (1861). He has, however, contributed articles on education and other kindred topics to the *Edinburgh* and *North British Reviews*.

THE NEW DEAD-MEAT AND POULTRY MARKET.

OLD Newgate Market has now ceased to be, New Smithfield Market having taken its place. Business was transacted in Newgate for the last time on Monday, and on Tuesday morning, at four o'clock, the new market at Smithfield for the sale of meat and poultry was opened for business. This new market, of which the corner-stone was laid rather more than two years ago, has taken the place of the pens and lairs which for so many years defaced the surface of "old Smithfield." Smithfield market was a nuisance while it was in active existence and when half-maddened oxen were, almost daily, driven through the streets of the City for sale; but it is somewhat doubtful whether it was not even a greater nuisance after the "animals" had been transferred to Islington, and all that remained of its old condition were the worm-eaten railings which had separated the raging beasts from tranquil sheep or contemplative pigs. It was, therefore, with much satisfaction that most of the inhabitants of the metropolis hailed the passing of the Act of 1860, which authorised the Corporation of the City to purchase property and to expend money for the erection of a meat and poultry market upon this neglected site. The delay that has occurred has sometimes seemed excessive, but at length the disreputable area of the Smithfield of some eight or nine years ago has been reclaimed and built over, and the structure which has arisen under the direction of Mr. Jones, the City Architect, is the first really satisfactory market for the sale of dead meat and poultry that has ever been erected in the metropolis.

The style of architecture adopted in the new market buildings may be included in the general term Italian; but we are by no means inclined to dispute the authoritative declaration that it is of "a type more nearly allied to the Renaissance architecture of France than the more severe Palladian school." In point of fact, it is an enormous square, surrounded by walls about 30 ft. high, of red brick, relieved by pilasters of Portland stone, and divided into four separate quarters by means of a public, but covered, roadway, which runs north and south, and the central avenue, which intersects it at right angles. The prevailing feature of the exterior is a series of arched recesses between Doric pilasters fluted on the upper two thirds, and elevated on pedestals; and the general flatness of the design is relieved by four towers at the angles of the buildings, a couple of ornamental facades at the two extremities of the road already referred to, and an equal number of pedimented gateways in the east and west fronts. The towers, which approach a little too nearly to the "pepper-box" form to be altogether

satisfactory, are constructed entirely of stone; the bulk of the building being of red brick. At the base they are square; then comes an octagonal story, carrying a dome, pierced by four dormer windows, and above all there is a lantern surrounded by an ornamental iron railing. These towers can hardly be regarded as especially beautiful in themselves, but they have the merit of breaking the almost necessary flatness of the building devoted to the purposes of a market. This monotony is further broken, so far at least as the north and south fronts are concerned, by the covered roadway which divides the market into two sections, and which runs from the end of St. John-street to a point nearly opposite St. Bartholomew's Hospital. This roadway, which it must be understood is as much a public highway as the old road which used to traverse Smithfield in the same direction, is 50 ft. wide; its sides are shut off from the market by an elaborate screen of ironwork 14 ft. high, and at its intersection with the central avenue there are two pairs of handsome iron gates. This road enters and leaves the building between double piers, which carry a richly-moulded elliptical arch and pediment of cast iron. Over each double pier there is an emblematical figure, in Portland stone, representing one of the four principal cities of the United Kingdom. The two which adorn the south front represent London and Edinburgh. The sculptured images of Dublin and Liverpool look towards the north. The principal entrances are at the east and west ends of the market. The openings are 27 ft. high by 19 ft. wide, and they are closed by iron gates which are said to be unequalled in Great Britain, if not in the world, for their elaborate and rich design, as well as for their size. Though made

generally, is of wood; but the wide margins round the shops, immediately beneath what are called the butchers' "hangings," are formed of the Pyramont Sessel asphalt, and it is at least doubtful whether it would not have been wise to adopt this or some similar compound throughout the building. So much for the market building, the entire cost of which will, it is said, be somewhat within the architect's estimate of £200,000.

We must not, however, forget to mention that the whole of this structure rests upon iron girders and brick arches; and that the space below is, as it were, an enormous cellar excavated at the expense of various railway companies, and intended to be used as a vast dépôt for goods, and especially for meat. Hither will be brought, by means of the different lines which are worked in combination with the Metropolitan Railway—that is to say, by almost all, if not all, the lines which run into London—the carcasses of beasts and sheep, pigs and calves, from all parts of England, and hence they will be transferred by means of hydraulic lifts, one of which is to be constructed in each quarter of the market, to the stalls above. The excavation of this immense cellar, and the formation of the artificial flooring of the market, was of itself a work of no inconsiderable magnitude. No less than 3,500,000 cubic feet of earth had to be removed, and twenty-one main girders were carried across the entire width—240 ft.—on wrought-iron stanchions. On these were laid cross girders, between which brick arches were turned, and the whole was covered with concrete ready to receive the wood and asphalt pavement of the market.

The new market, as we have stated, was opened on Tuesday morning; and until some two hours after noon business was carried on with as much activity and regularity as though the institution had been in operation for months. The great east and west doors, as well as those opening out of the public road which traverses the market from north to south, were opened at two o'clock, and from that hour until four the wholesale butchers were busily engaged in stocking their shops with sides of oxen and carcasses of sheep. This operation was carried on with great briskness and activity; and, as all the shops are already occupied, there was soon a goodly show of beef and mutton, to say nothing of pork or veal, displayed within the walls of the new structure. Tuesday is not, however, a great market day, and the quantity of meat exposed for sale was not so large as that which will be delivered at the doors of the market on the last days of the week. All the meat which was received on Tuesday was brought to the market in waggons and carts, in the old-fashioned way. The railway facilities are not at present available; and it will probably take some little time to bring them into operation. About four o'clock the process of delivering and hanging the meat had been completed, and at that hour the side doors were opened for the admission of the buyers—not the actual consuming public, but the retail butchers who have shops in different parts of the metropolis, and who, not killing their own beasts or sheep, have been accustomed to rely upon the salesmen of Newgate or Leadenhall market for their daily supply of beef and mutton. All, or nearly all, these salesmen are represented in the new market; and few, if any, of their customers were absent on Tuesday morning—that is, if one may judge by the number of spring carts, waggons, "shays," and anomalous vehicles of all descriptions, which had brought their owners to the market, and were intended to carry away their purchases. Business commenced actively, and before the morning was far advanced a large portion of the day's stock had been disposed of at average prices—prices, that is, neither materially higher nor lower than those which have lately ruled at Newgate Market—and conveyed away by the purchasers. Although but little trade was done in single joints, the market remained open long

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as light as is consistent with the necessary strength, each pair weighs 18 tons. In dealing with the interior of the market the architect has paid more regard to utility than to effect; but although he has had to cover the ground with a series of stalls divided by the various avenues into blocks, and garnished with the ugliest and most spiteful-looking hooks that the most vicious-minded butcher's boy could have invented, he has not allowed his attention to be entirely absorbed by these vulgar but necessary accessories; and the effect of the central avenue, with its ornamental columns, elliptical arches, and spandrels, surmounted by the curved principals of the roof, is as light and agreeable as anything with which we are acquainted in the way of market architecture.

A most important point in reference to a building of this description was to secure light without sunshine, and free ventilation without exposure to rain or snow. This has been accomplished by the adoption of the mansard form of roof. The lower part is filled in with broad glass louvres, which admit air, while the over-lapping of the plate glass shuts out the direct rays of the sun. The effect of this arrangement was tested during the excessive heat of last summer, and the thermometer showed that the temperature within the building was seldom less than 10 deg. below that in the shade outside. The stalls—or shops, as they may more properly be called, since each one includes a set of offices or temporary dwelling-rooms—are arranged in blocks, which are formed by the intersection of six passages, each 18 ft. wide, with the central avenue, which has a width of 27 ft. These shops are formed of a cast-iron framework, composed of iron columns and lattice girders, and to these are attached brackets and rails for carrying the vicious-looking meat-hooks to which reference has already been made. There are in the market 162 shops, each including a counting-house, private room, &c. At the eastern end one bay will be reserved for dealers in poultry and game, but no fish or vegetables will be sold in this market; nor is any space appropriated to the accommodation of the poodles and Skye terriers, whose presence gives, or need to give, so much interest to "old Leadenhall." The pavement,

after the wholesale transactions had come to an end; and no regular attempt was made to clear it until about two o'clock in the afternoon. By this time many of the shops had been entirely stripped of their commodities of flesh, and the rows of vicious-looking hooks, from which sides and carcasses had earlier depended, stood out in all their naked repulsiveness; but here and there were still to be seen toothsome-looking joints or handsome carcasses of beasts or sheep. All the forenoon the alleys and side passages, and more especially the great central avenue, were thronged by crowds of people, whose curiosity had been excited by so important an event as the opening of a great metropolitan meat market, and who were anxious to satisfy themselves whether the new building was worthy of the purpose for which it was intended. The arrangements for the reception and delivery of the meat were sufficient and satisfactory; and, as far as we are aware, no complaints reached the market superintendent of any deficiencies or defects.

THE FUNERAL OF ROSSINI.

We published in our last week's Number a full account of the funeral of the late eminent composer, Rossini; and we now place before our readers a couple of Engravings—the one representing the cortège leaving the Church of the Trinity for Père la Chaise, and the other the delivery of a funeral oration at the burial vault. To the details already published there is nothing to add; but we may mention that a telegram from Rome informs us that a commission has been appointed to compose a funeral mass in honour of Rossini, to be executed with great pomp in Lent; and that funeral services for the late maestro have been celebrated in several cities in Italy, as well as in the Italian church, Hatton-garden, London, where the music performed was Mozart's grand "Requiem," with full orchestral accompaniments. We hear from Florence, too, that Madame Rossini has consented to the transfer of her late husband's remains to Italy, but it is yet uncertain whether they will be deposited in Florence or in his native city, Pesaro.



THE NEW MEAT AND POULTRY MARKET, SMITHFIELD.

SCOTLAND.

Aberdeen.	Colonel Sykes ..	L	Haddingtonshire.	Lord Elcho ..	C
Aberdeenshire (East).	Mr. Fordyce ..	L	Hawick.	Mr. G. Trevelyan ..	L
Aberdeenshire (West).	Mr. McCumbe ..	L	Inverness.	Mr. Mackintosh ..	L
Argyleshire.	Marquis of Lorne ..	L	Inverness-shire.	Mr. Cameron ..	C
Ayr District.	Mr. Crauford ..	L	Kilmarnock.	Mr. Bouverie ..	L
Ayrshire (North).	Mr. Finnie ..	L	Kincairdineshire.	Mr. Nicol ..	L
Ayrshire (South).	Sir D. Wedderburn ..	L	Kirkcaldy.	Mr. Aytoun ..	L
Barfshire.	Mr. Duff ..	L	Kirkcubrightshire.	Mr. Maxwell ..	L
Berwickshire.	Mr. D. Robertson ..	L	Lanarkshire (North).	Sir E. Colebrooke ..	L
Buteshire.	Mr. Dalrymple ..	C	Lanarkshire (South).	Major Hamilton ..	L
Caithness.	Mr. Traill ..	L	Leith.	Mr. Macle ..	L
Clackmannan and Kinross.	Mr. Adams ..	L	Linlithgowshire.	Mr. M. Logan ..	C
Dumfriesshire.	Mr. Orr-Ewing ..	C	Montrose.	Mr. Baxter ..	L
Dumfries.	Major Jardine ..	L	Paisley.	Mr. Ewing ..	L
Dumfriesshire.	Mr. Waterlow ..	L	Perth.	Hon. A. Kinnaird ..	L
Dundee.	Mr. Armstrong ..	L	Perthshire.	Mr. C. Parker ..	L
Edinburgh.	Sir J. Ogilvy ..	L	Renfrewshire.	Captain Speirs ..	L
Edinburgh.	Mr. McLaren ..	L	Ross and Cromarty.	Mr. Matheson ..	L
Edinburghshire.	Mr. Miller ..	L	Roxburghshire.	Sir W. Scott ..	L
Elgin.	Sir A. G. Maitland ..	L	St. Andrew's.	Mr. Ellice ..	L
Elgin and Nairn.	Mr. Grant Duff ..	L	Selkirk and Peebles.	Sir G. Montgomery ..	C
Falkirk.	Mr. Grant ..	C	Stirling.	Mr. J. S. Campbell ..	L
Fife.	Mr. Merry ..	L	Stirlingshire.	Admiral Erskine ..	L
Fife.	Sir R. Anstruther ..	L	Sutherlandshire.	Lord R. L. Gower ..	L
Forfarshire.	Mr. Carnegie ..	L	Wickburgh.	Mr. George Loch ..	L
Glasgow.	Mr. Graham ..	L	Wilton.	Mr. G. Young ..	L
Glasgow.	Mr. Dalglish ..	L	Wilton.	Lord Gairdrie ..	C
Glasgow.	Mr. Anderson ..	L			
Greenock.	Mr. Grieve ..	L			
Haddington District.	Sir H. Davie ..	L			

Up to Thursday night the returns to the new House of Commons stood thus:—

	L	C
England and Wales ..	265	227
Scotland ..	50	7
Ireland ..	66	39
	381	273

Liberal majority, 108.

There are three returns still to be received—namely, Orkney and Shetland and the two Scottish Universities. In Orkney Mr. Dundas (L), the late member, and Mr. Riddell (C) stand; but the probabilities are that Mr. Dundas will be re-elected. The polling for the Universities will not close till the end of the week. The latest returns of the polling show an equality of votes between Mr. Moncrieff (L) and Mr. Gordon (C), for Glasgow and Aberdeen; and for Edinburgh and St. Andrews, 1698 for Swinton (C), and 1690 for Playfair (L).

The following list shows the results of the elections in the constituencies to which the late Parliament applied the clause for the representation of minorities. The number of members returned to the last as well as to the present Parliament are given:—

	Late Parliament.		Present Parliament.	
	L	C	L	C
Berks ..	—	3	1	2
Bucks ..	—	3	1	2
Cambridge ..	1	2	1	2
Dorset ..	1	2	1	2
Hereford ..	2	1	2	2
Herts ..	1	2	2	1
Oxford ..	—	3	1	2
London City ..	4	—	3	1
Manchester ..	2	—	2	1
Liverpool ..	—	2	1	2
Leeds ..	1	1	2	1
Birmingham ..	2	—	3	—
Glasgow ..	2	—	3	—
	15	20	22	18

The Liberals have thus won seats in Berks, Bucks, Oxford, a second seat in Hertfordshire, and the third seat in Liverpool, Leeds, Birmingham, and Glasgow. The Conservatives gained the minority seat in the city of London and in Manchester.

STREET TRAMROADS.—The proposed new tramroads will help to convince the railway companies that run through the suburbs that an extortionate policy is, in the long run, a mistake. A foolish experiment made some years ago in the very heart of London, prejudiced the public mind against the use of the most cheap and convenient roads yet invented. Americans miss our cabs in their own country, but for long distances out of town have an advantage over us in "cars," which are quick and similar to the fares are low. It is now intended to construct roads similar to these between London and Blackheath, Croydon, Richmond, Hounslow, and other places. Every care would be taken to avoid causing obstruction in crowded thoroughfares. The architect of Westminster Bridge, Mr. Page, is said to have prepared the necessary plans. If the tramroads are properly laid down and well managed, the public will very soon wonder how they contrived to do so long without them. At the same time the railway companies, which showed so much presence of mind in their own interests last autumn, will be very glad to adopt a reasonable tariff.

POOR-LAW HUMANITY AND JUSTICE.—A fair specimen of poor-law humanity and poor-law justice has occurred at the village of Branton, four miles and a half from Lincoln. A pauper named Dowman was attended by Mr. Branthwaite, the district medical officer, under an order of the relieving officer. He was suffering from disease of the knee joint, which he had been twice in a London and once in the Lincoln hospital. When amputation became indispensable he refused to be removed from home, and Mr. Branthwaite, having complied with the regulations of the Poor-Law Board, successfully performed the operation, and sent in his bill. To his astonishment he received a letter from the board of guardians complaining of the great expense incurred to the Lincoln hospital, to which the man ought to have been sent again to the Lincoln hospital, to which the guardians are subscribers. The question was referred to the Poor-Law Board, who expressed their opinion that the medical officer should not, as a general rule, undertake an operation of a serious character without first giving to the guardians notice of the course proposed to be adopted. This monstrous opinion bears the signature of Mr. Fleming. Why, indeed, should not a poor man be permitted to have an important operation performed by the medical officer in attendance, in whose judgment and skill he has confidence? And why should he be compelled to go, against his will, into a public hospital, especially when the law affords him attendance as a right at home? Why should he be forced to leave his family and friends, who are most competent to be his kind and loving nurses, and to go into an institution of which he has already had experience, and from which he has derived no benefit? And, with respect to the medical officer, where is the law to limit the performance of his duties, as Mr. Fleming would infer, or to compel him to consult the guardians as to the course it is his duty to pursue? It is well known that operations may be as well performed in an isolated cottage as in a crowded hospital, notwithstanding the practised skill and combined judgment of its staff. Moreover, it was the bounden duty of the medical officer to consult the feelings of his patient, as an element which might determine the issue of the operation.—*Lancet*.

Literature.

The Mysteries of Ocean. Translated, edited, and enlarged, from the French of ARTHUR MANGIN, by the Translator of "The Bird." With 130 Illustrations by W. Freeman and J. Noël. London: T. Nelson and Sons.

We had the pleasure, about this time last year, of calling attention to an admirably translated and beautifully illustrated English version of M. Michelet's wonderful book, "The Bird," a work which we designated "the poetry of natural history," and of which we are glad to find that a second edition has already been called for. We have now before us two other books translated by the same able hand, and issued by the same publishers—Messrs. T. Nelson and Sons—which are every way worthy of their elegant predecessor. These are "The Mysteries of Ocean" and "The Desert World," by M. Arthur Mangin. To one only of these—"The Mysteries of Ocean"—can we give attention at present: a notice of "The Desert World" we must reserve for a future opportunity. It may be as well, however, to say at once that nothing can be more perfect in every respect than the style in which these works are executed. The translator—we wish he would let us know something more of him than his mere initials, "W. H. D. A."—has done his work in an absolutely unexceptionable manner. He is evidently not only a thorough master of both the languages—French and English—with which he has had to deal, and can consequently render in the one the beauties of style characteristic of the original writers in the other, but he is likewise fully conversant with the subject-matter treated of—the natural history of the denizens of the air, the ocean, and the desert places of the earth. This last-named qualification enables him to supplement, correct, and further develop—in footnotes and bracketed passages—the statements in the original; and the result is, as regards the work more immediately under our notice just now, that he has been enabled to fulfil his aim of adapting it to the wants of the English reader, of making it a complete survey of the life and history of the ocean, of bringing down the information to the latest date, and of exhibiting the results of the most recent scientific research. His interpolations amount to, perhaps, about a fifth of the whole; and the work, as it is here placed before us, with its accessories of splendid toned paper, beautifully-executed printing, elegant binding, and, above all, admirable illustrations, will, undoubtedly, be not only an agreeable and useful, but eminently handsome, addition to the family library, and a convenient manual for the student and general reader.

M. Mangin's aim in writing this book, as we are told in the original preface, was "to retrace the sublime history of Creation, to relate the birth of Ocean, its revolutions and successive transformations." "Next," he adds, "we study Ocean in its actual condition; its regular or tumultuous movements, the causes which produce and the laws which govern them. Exploring afterwards the shores of the seas, their surface, and even their abysses, we see developed the prodigious series of beings which inhabit them: fantastic plants; rudimentary animals scarcely distinguishable from plants; microscopical creatures which swarm in incalculable myriads, agitate, labour, and multiply—molluscs, crustaceans, fish, reptiles, gigantic amphibians, even birds; for among the winged race there are hundreds of species which belong to the marine not less than to the aerial world. Finally, we show the Ocean ploughed in every direction, excavated in its depths and explored by man, and exercising a powerful influence on the progress of science and civilisation; less, indeed, by the immense riches which it offers to our greed than by the obstacles which it opposes to our encroachments, and by the problems which it proposes for us to solve." In working out his design our author divides his work into four books, which treat respectively of—1, The History of Ocean; 2, The Phenomena of Ocean; 3, The Marine World; and 4, Man and the Ocean. In the first division we have a complete epitome of the views of all the best writers on the original condition of the matter of which our earth is composed, of its successive changes and developments, of the influence of the Plutonian and Neptunian forces—of the powers of fire and water, that is—and of the processes through which the globe must have passed ere it assumed the appearance it now wears. In this part of the work we have a clear and intelligible outline of the discoveries and conclusions of geologists and terrestrial astronomers, so far as these have a bearing on the formation and history of the ocean; while, at the same time, a vast deal of information on subsidiary topics is also conveyed. In the second division, M. Mangin treats of the tides, the circulation of the ocean; the gulf streams; rivers, prairies, glaciers, &c.; the convulsions of ocean; the atmosphere and the winds; and the tempests. Under the heading of "The Marine World," in the third division, we have full descriptions of the leading tribes of creatures that dwell in the great deep, as well as of their habits, uses, and the means employed by man to combat, capture, and utilise them. The fourth division, "Man and the Ocean," treats of navigation, fisheries, whale-hunting, seal-hunting, divers, man's tribute to the sea, &c. The work, as a whole, may be characterised as the philosophy and history of oceanic phenomena, described in most felicitous language, and embellished by the highest efforts of pictorial art. We can see nothing whatever in it to which we can take exception; and we afford our readers an opportunity of judging its merits for themselves by placing before them a couple of Engravings and rather copious extracts from the book. These relate to the shark and the turtle.

THE SHARK.

"For strength and voracity the foremost place may unquestionably be claimed by the tribe Squalidae, and in the tribe the first rank must undoubtedly be given to the terrible family of the sharks. The form of the body in the individuals of this family is elongated, the tail is thick and fleshy. The large cavernous mouth is usually situated beneath the snout, and armed with several rows of bristling, compressed, and sharp-edged teeth, which are movable at the creature's will, and being generally laid down and directed backwards, rise erect at the moment he pounces on his prey. His rough skin is covered with a multitude of little osseous tubercles; and that of some species forms the substance called shagreen. The white shark (*Squalus carcharias*) sometimes attains the length of between twenty and thirty feet. His head is of a broad, depressed shape, terminating in an obtusely-pointed snout; the huge mouth, capable of admitting the thigh, or even the body, of a man, affords ample room for a thick cartilaginous tongue; the eyes have a bluish or greenish cast, and a peculiar stony glare. The stomach is of vast size, and dilatible to an extraordinary degree; the brain small. Broad, strong, and pointed are the pectoral fins; the first dorsal fin is falcated behind, and pointed; the second is situated near the root of the tail, which has a bilobate shape. The general colour of the animal is a pale or whitish ash, but darker on the upper parts. His swiftness of motion is such that he can outstrip the swiftest vessel, and his strength so great that no unarmed man can cope with him successfully. Observe, too, that his teeth are not incased in bone, like those of quadrupeds, but in cartilaginous sockets, which enables him to raise or lower them at his pleasure. When, therefore, he seizes a victim of more than ordinary vigour he moves them all, either in succession or simultaneously, and multiplies the number of wounds which he inflicts. With one snap of his powerful jaws a shark of average size will cut a man in two. We need not wonder, therefore, that he is more dreaded by sailors than any other monster of the monster-haunted deep. Frequently, in the West Indian seas, the negro crew of a boat will cease rowing, and with a significant air indicate to the voyager the hideous form of a shark following in the rear, and apparently waiting for some false movement or sudden accident, which, by capsizing the frail skiff, may provide his ravenous maw with food. Frequently, too, on tempestuous nights, when the wind and the sea seem to howl a funeral dirge, the shark appears in the midst of the heaving billows; the seamen recognise his presence by the phosphorescence—the 'elish light'—The flash of

golden fire—that glints from his shining scales, and know that he lusts after a victim. In tropical waters he follows the ships with indefatigable patience, ready to swallow the unfortunate who may fall overboard, or the dead mariner whose body is committed to the deep as to a last resting-place. For this voracious creature the dead and the living are equally satisfactory prey. The shark, however, is met with in all climates; but it is in the seas of the torrid zone that his ferocity renders him most formidable. He appears to dread two enemies only: the gigantic cachalot (*Physeter macrocephalus*), which wages against him a murderous war, and man. The 'fierce joy' of a difficult and even dangerous struggle, the intense gratification of conquering a great destroyer, would be sufficient motives to animate the sailor in hunting the shark; but, besides, several useful products are obtained from the monster. His thick, hard skin, susceptible of a fine polish, is employed for sheaths and cases. His liver yields an oil identical in its properties with that of the cod's liver, and capable of being applied to the dressing of skins. His flesh is leathery, it is true, but eatable in extremities.

There are several species of the Squalidae. I have already described the most formidable, in the white shark. There is no reason to dread the basking shark (*Selachias maximus*), though scarcely inferior in size to his ferocious congener. In the month of June he may be seen in the Firth of Clyde or among the waters of the Hebrides, basking quietly near the surface, and occasionally indulging in an upward leap of several feet. The tail is of great size, and the upper part remarkable for its extreme length. The upper surface of the body is of a deep leaden colour, the belly white; the skin on the back is granulated like shagreen; and within the mouth, towards the throat, is a species of whalebone.

If there is any real beauty in this hideous tribe, it must be sought in the blue shark (*Squalus glaucus*), whose colour above is blue-green, beneath white, and whose shape has some degree of elegance and grace. He grows to the length of 8 ft., and is found in most parts of the globe. A fierce, courageous fish, he is scarcely less dreaded by sailors than the white shark, though he feeds principally on shads, pilchards, tunnies, and herrings.

The thresher or fox shark (*Squalus vulpes*) has two distinguishing characteristics—the immense development of the upper lobe of the caudal fin, or tail, which enables him to thrash the waters violently till they boil and seethe for a large space round; and the foxlike head, with its small mouth and large eyes.

Not above 3 ft. or 4 ft. in length, the pickled shark (*Galeus acanthias*) is a by no means formidable inhabitant of the European seas, and is caught on the Scottish coast to be split, dried, and consumed as food by the poorer classes.

By the side of the white shark we must place the great pilgrim (grand pelerin), as equalling or even surpassing it in dimensions, though by no means so formidable. It has been represented as one of the eagerest persecutors of the whale; but this is a calumny. Although carnivorous, like all the squalidae, it does not cast itself blindly on everything it encounters, but feeds only on small fish.

Some of the squalidae are remarkable only for their wild and grotesque forms. Such are the hammer-headed shark (*Zygæna vulgaris*), and the squatin, angel-fish or monk-fish (*Squatina angelus*). The former, to the body of a shark adds a head dilated on each side to so great an extent as to resemble some colossal hammer; such a one, for instance, as may have been wielded by the hand of Thor. The eyes, which are very large, are placed at each extremity; the mouth beneath, as in others of its tribe. It is a native of the Mediterranean and Indian Seas; no less formidable from its voracity than frightful from its hideousness. It also frequents the blue waters of the Polynesian Islands. Its usual length is 9 ft. or 10 ft.

THE TURTLE.

Of the ocean reptile tribes our author treats at considerable length; and of the turtles, or thalassites, he says:—

"In my chapter upon the inhabitants of the primeval ocean, I have brought the reader acquainted with those gigantic and terrible animals—half fish, half crocodile—which committed such terrible ravages in its waters. The revolutions of the surface of the globe have annihilated these monsters; and the class of reptiles is simply represented to-day, in the marine world, by a few species, of great size, it is true, but of inoffensive habits, which feed only upon the seaweed, or at most, upon the small molluscs or zoophytes.

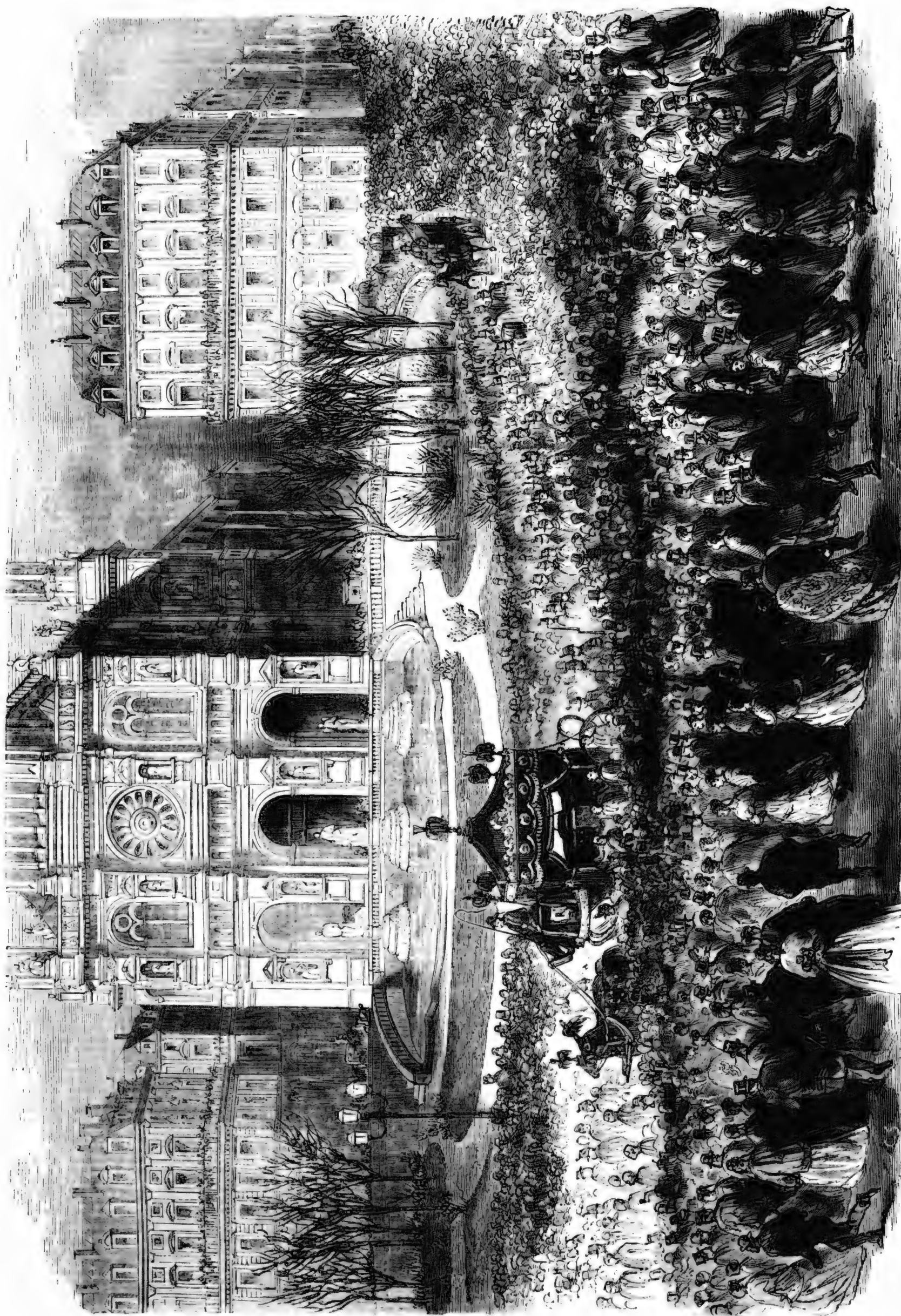
All these species belong to a single family—the Chelonidae, turtles, or marine-tortoises. They receive the name of "Thalassites" to distinguish them from the land-tortoises (*Testudinata*, chersites), the marsh-tortoises (*Emydæ*), and the river-tortoises (*Potamites*). They are the largest of all the Chelonidae. They differ chiefly from their terrestrial congeners in the conformation of their feet, which, like those of all animals destined to spend their lives in the ocean tracts, are changed into paddle-like fins, and so flattened that the toes cannot execute, one over the other, any voluntary movement. The anterior pair are much longer than the hind feet, and can be used as oars, enabling the animal to move through the water in any direction and with comparative swiftness.

The thalassites, according to the character of their shell, are divided into two genera:—The Chelonidae, whose dorsal shell side-pieces are covered with hard, horny plates, possessing peculiar properties, and which are well known to everybody, under the name of tortoise-shell; and the Sphargidae, among whom the shell is replaced by a coriaceous covering, checked over the entire surface by small, obscurely sub-hexagonal and pentagonal subdivisions or lineations; not sufficiently marked, however, to impair the general smoothness.

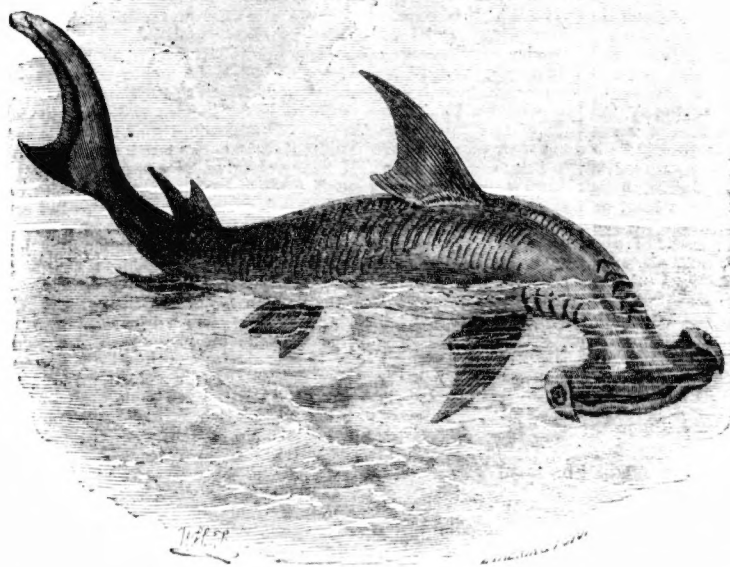
Turtles grow very slowly, and it is supposed they attain to a remarkable longevity. By a peculiar instinct, all the females of the same district or region repair from all parts, and at nearly definite epochs, to the desolate sandy shores. During the night they drag themselves to a considerable distance, excavate deep holes, which they line with grass, and deposit therein their eggs. They lay, it is said, about a hundred at a time, and this at two or three sittings, in the space of fifteen to twenty days. After covering her brood lightly with the sand, the turtle returns to the sea, leaving the eggs exposed to the action of the solar rays, whose heat serves them instead of the maternal incubation. The eggs of the thalassites are perfectly spherical, and from two to three inches in diameter. They are hatched in about fifteen or twenty days. The little turtles at first are without a carapace; they are of a whitish colour; although very feeble, they lose not a moment in betaking themselves to the sea, where their first developments are rapidly accomplished.

Like other amphibians, they dive and swim admirably, and sleep profoundly out at sea, cradled by the waves. In more or less numerous flocks they are encountered in all the seas of warm regions, principally between the tropics; in the West Indian archipelago, and throughout the Gulf of Mexico; in the Indian Ocean, on the shores of the Mauritius and Madagascar; and in the Pacific, at the Sandwich Islands and the Gallipagos. They are seldom found in the great ocean or in the Mediterranean, or found as solitary individuals, and apparently astray. The chelonidae are by far the most common; but, in spite of their prodigious fecundity, their number has already decreased to an appreciable extent, owing to man's incessant pursuit of them for the sake of their costly and beautiful shell. This substance is valued for its hardness, its transparency, its gleaming shades of colour, the fine polish of which it is susceptible, and the ease with which it is wrought. Although it bears a tolerably close resemblance to horn, it is easily distinguished from it, not being formed, like the latter, of parallel fibres; it seems to be rather the result of an exudation, and consists of a kind of solidified mucus. Its texture is homogeneous—it may be cut and polished in every direction; finally, it softens under the influence of heat, which enables the artisan to fashion it, to mould it into various forms, and these it retains on cooling and growing hard.

The most interesting species of the chelonidae are:—The Edible or Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*); the Imbricated Turtle



THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE M. ROSSINI: THE CORTÈGE ON ITS WAY TO PÈRE LA CHAISE.—SEE PAGE 360.



THE HAMMER-HEADED SHARK.

(*Chelonia imbricata*); the Coriaceous Turtle (*Sphargis coriacea*); and the Loggerhead Turtle (*Testudo caretta*).

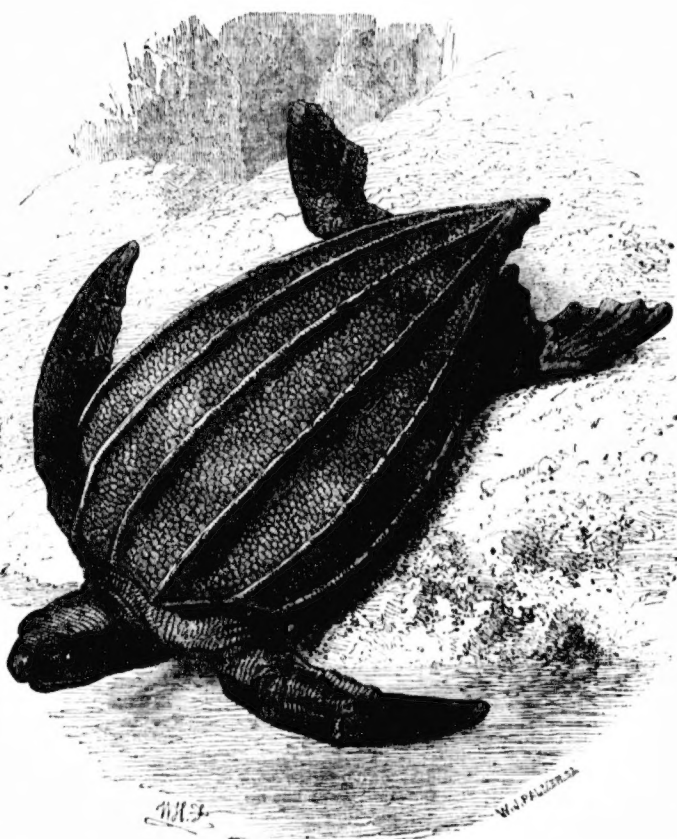
"The edible or green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) is one of the largest of the genus, measuring above five feet in length, and weighing from five to six hundred pounds. Its shell consists of thirteen dorsal segments or divisions, surrounded by twenty-five marginal pieces, and its form is somewhat heart-shaped, or like the shield worn by medieval soldiers. Its colour is a dark, palish brown—'shot,' so to speak, with green shades. Its flesh is esteemed a peculiarly wholesome and savoury food, and its fishing is consequently carried on with great vigour in the West Indian islands, but more particularly at Ascension Island, which seems to be the great turtle-rendezvous and universal gathering-place of the chelonidae.

"There are several varieties of the green turtle—as, for instance, the striped turtle (*Chelonia vergata*) of the Red Sea, the spotted turtle (*Chelonia maculata*) of the Malabar coast, and the marbled turtle (*Chelonia marmorata*) of Ascension Island. The imbricated turtle (*Chelonia imbricata*) derives its name from the manner in which its scales lap over each other at their extremities, like tiles

on the roof of a house. The outline of its shell more nearly resembles the form of a heart than that of any other species, and terminates in a sharper point. It has a smaller head than its congeners, a longer neck, and a narrower bill, which is also sharper, and so boldly curved as to bear a striking resemblance to the bill of a hawk. Hence it is vulgarly named the Hawks-bill Turtle. It is a native of the warm seas of Asia and America, though it strays occasionally into the Mediterranean. Its general length is about 3 ft. Its flesh is not esteemed as food; but it is eagerly sought for on account of its valuable carapace, the lamellae, or plates, being stronger, clearer, and thicker than in any other species. They afford the well-known substance called tortoise-shell; are semi-transparent, and finely checkered with cloudy undulations of a whitish, reddish, yellowish, and brownish hue, so that, when polished and carefully wrought, they are capable of adaptation to numerous ornamental purposes.

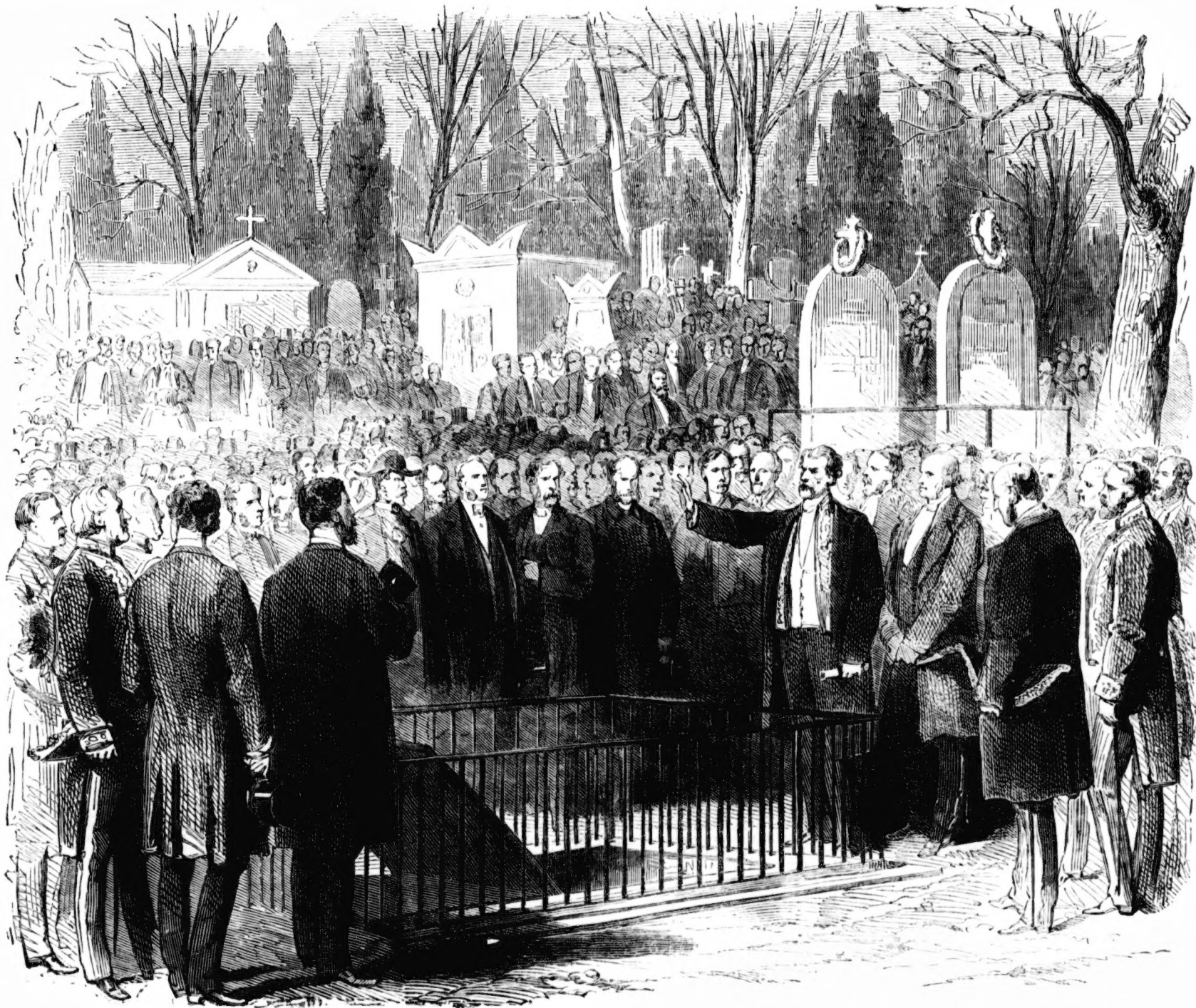
"The coriaceous turtle (*Sphargis coriacea*) is distinguished from the rest of the chelonidae, as its name implies, by the peculiar nature of its carapace, which consists of a coriaceous or leathery substance, checkered over its entire surface by numerous subhexagonal and pentagonal lineations, which, how-

ever, are so lightly marked as in nowise to impair the general smoothness. Five strongly prominent and tuberculated ridges traverse the whole length of this leathery cuirass, and there is no under or thoracic shell. The colour is a dusky brown, paler on the inferior parts. The tail is short, and sharply pointed; a strong leathery skin covers the large, long legs; the head is large, and the upper mandible so singularly notched at the tip that it resembles two large teeth or processes. This species of turtle inhabits the Mediterranean, and has been found at times on the French and English coasts. It occasionally wanders as far as the shores of South America and Africa. Some individuals measure seven and eight feet in length, and weigh a thousand pounds. In habits the *sphargis* resemble the other chelonidae; but, unlike all the other turtles, which are voiceless, they give vent, when they are caught, to a kind of cry or groan. Hence their scientific name, which signifies the 'noise of the throat.' Boldest, most voracious, and largest of the tribe is the loggerhead turtle (*Testudo caretta*), which, however, is of no commercial value, neither its flesh nor its

THE CORIACEOUS TURTLE (*SPHARGIS CORIACEA*.)

shell being available for commercial purposes. It is distinguished by having fifteen, instead of thirteen, dorsal segments or scutellae; and each of these, in the middle dorsal range, rises at the end into a moderately bold protuberance, thus forming a line of tubercles or bosses along the back of the shield. The fore feet are very large and long; the hind feet short, but broad. The loggerhead turtle is also known as the *Cacouana olivana*."

For the English version of this work on the ocean, as well as for those of its predecessor, "The Bird," and its companion, "The Desert World," we heartily thank the translator and the publishers, who could not devote their knowledge, enterprise, and skill to better purposes than that of giving to the reading public such useful and elegant works as these.



THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE M. ROSSINI: THE ORATION AT THE VAULT.

THE LATE M. BERRYER.

THE distinguished French advocate and politician, M. Berryer, died on Sunday, at his seat at Angerville. He has not long outlived his friend and cotemporary, Lord Brougham, and he has now gone down to his grave with the reputation of his earlier days in no way diminished.

Pierre Antoine Berryer, the son of Pierre Nicholas Berryer, who practised in his day as an advocate at the Paris Bar, and was one of the counsel for the doomed family of Louis XVI., was born in Paris on Jan. 4, 1790. On leaving college he was entered as a student of law, and, having duly qualified himself, commenced practice in 1811, when he was little more than one-and-twenty years of age. It is said that his first appearance in the courts was by no means successful, and that his earlier speeches gave no indication of those great powers which he afterwards exhibited. It appears that in early youth his sympathies were in favour of the Empire; but in 1814, we are told, he proclaimed the fall of Napoleon in the presence of the magistrates of Rennes, and mounted the white cockade. It was in 1815, when associated with his father and M. Dupin in the defence of Marshal Ney, that he gained his first laurels as an advocate and an orator. Ney's trial was followed by those of Generals Debelles and Cambronne, and young Berryer alone was retained for their defence. His eloquence could not save the former, but he was successful in obtaining an acquittal for Cambronne. This victory was speedily followed by other legal triumphs; the rising advocate's success was equally great in civil and political trials, and his attainment of the first rank among legal orators was acknowledged to be only a matter of time. It would be impossible here to record the important trials in which he was engaged before reaching his fortieth year. In 1829 or 1830 he was chosen a member of the Chamber of Deputies, and from that time forward he steadily represented the rights and the policy of the elder branch of the Bourbons. He was offered a place in the Polignac Ministry; but he declined it, as being likely to fetter him in his free and independent action. After the Revolution of July, 1830, we find him speaking powerfully, but without avail, against the deposition of Charles X. and the impeachment of the Polignac Ministry. Under the "Citizen King" it was but natural that M. Berryer's Legitimist tendencies should keep him in the background of politics; but as the Legitimist party in the Chamber increased, so also did his own position grow in importance. He was now elected deputy for Marseilles; but he steadily refused all offers from Louis Philippe, struggling on as the champion of the banished branch of the Bourbons, and animated by a strong conviction, which he never was at the pains to conceal, that the régime of the Orleansist party would come to an end before the death of Louis Philippe. How sound and true this conviction was in fact was shown by the events of the year 1848. In 1832 and the following year he was busily and actively employed in advising the Duchesse de Berry, whom he endeavoured to dissuade from the rising in La Vendée; but for his complicity in the affairs of the Duchesse he was obliged to stand a prosecution, though he obtained an acquittal.

M. Berryer was employed as counsel for MM. de Lamennais and Châteaubriand; and in almost all cases of prosecution against the Royalist journals he appeared in their defence. Such now was the fame of his oratory, both at the Bar and in the Chamber, that he was elected a deputy in no less than four electoral colleges; but he chose to remain faithful to his old friends, and declined to abandon the electors of Marseilles. In 1836 we find him visiting the Royal exiles at Goritz, and, three years later, joining the coalition formed by M. Thiers and M. Guizot against M. Molé. His various speeches on home and foreign affairs, on behalf of French interests, secured him general popularity, which was much increased by his own personal qualities—a fascinating manner, various accomplishments, and entire freedom from personalities. In spite of his strong Legitimist convictions, he was always a favourite, and on intimate terms with the leading men of all parties; and, indeed, it may be said that, owing to his independent nature, he was almost as often at variance with his own party as with that on the opposite benches.

In 1840 he undertook the defence of Prince Louis Napoleon before the Chamber of Peers for his unsuccessful attempt at Boulogne. In 1843 he came to London, with M. de Châteaubriand, to pay a visit to the Count de Chambord, who was then living in Belgrave-square; and his advice to the Prince, that he should abstain from all intrigues and attempts to bring about an insurrection in France, was scrupulously followed. After the revolution of 1848 Berryer was chosen representative of the Bouches du Rhône, and, being apparently inclined to give a general support to the Government of the President Louis Napoleon, he became a member of his Privy Council; but this fact did not hinder him from going to Wiesbaden in 1850 to do homage to the Count de Chambord. On that occasion he was openly spoken of as the future Minister of Henry V. When Changarnier was removed from his command Berryer united with Thiers and others to oppose the pretensions of the President; and he was one of those who boldly protested against the coup-d'état. In 1854 he was elected a member of the French Academy. His inaugural address contained some uncomplimentary allusions to the Empire, and its publication was prohibited; the interdiction, however, was speedily removed by the Emperor himself. Berryer greatly added to his reputation as an orator by his defence of the Count de Montalembert against the Government prosecution in November, 1858, when he urged that the Count in no way calumniated his country by saying that France, as well as England, could admire and even support liberal institutions, and scouted the idea that a mere statement of facts which were matters of history, and expressed genuine admiration of the institutions of another country, though different from those of his own, could be tortured by any perversion of ingenuity into an attack on the Imperial Government. In the years 1860 and 1861 he was engaged in the case of "Patterson v. Bonaparte." In 1863, along with M. Thiers, he offered himself as a candidate for the Corps Législatif, and took the oath of allegiance.

M. Berryer had long been considered the foremost orator of France since the days of Mirabeau; and his speeches had in them at once all the charm of finished orations and the force of the suddenness, vivacity, and fire of extempore harangues. There are those who have compared him to Lord Derby, or rather to the Lord Stanley of a quarter of a century ago; of whose vehement and impassioned manner he reminded English hearers, especially when, confident of some advantage gained over his opponent in debate, he would heap refutations, sarcasms, and taunts on his discomfited adversary. When he stood at the Tribune, with his head raised and his arm uplifted, and poured forth his torrent of eloquence, nothing could be superior to him in style or in action. Possessing a most musical voice, and thoroughly gifted with every oratorical resource, he was listened to with profound silence, broken by applause only at the end of some fine period. Add to this the fact that he had an astonishing aptitude for business, and an intuitive quickness in mastering the details of the most complicated questions, and the reader may have an idea of the versatile and powerful orator whom France has just lost.

Towards the close of the year 1865 M. Berryer paid a visit to England, when he was entertained at dinner by the Benchers of the Temple and of Lincoln's Inn, as a mark of their respect for the Bar of France, and for himself as its representative; and his speech on that occasion was printed as a pamphlet and circulated through the Inns of Court. On returning to his native country he received a similar honour from the Bar of Besançon and from that of Bordeaux.

It merely remains to add that early in life—we believe when about twenty or twenty-one years of age—M. Berryer married Mdlle. Gauthier, by whom he had an only son. He was left a widower, however, many years ago.

ANOTHER SHOCK OF EARTHQUAKE was felt at Bucharest on the evening of the 27th ult.

THE COST OF ELECTION PETITIONS.

THE cost of petitioning against the return of a member of Parliament on the score of bribery has often debarred many persons from even attempting to unseat those who had bribed without conscience and without stint. Under the new Act this consideration need not deter anyone from presenting a petition. It is no longer probable that the ends of justice will be defeated owing to the want of means on the part of the aggrieved. Indeed, the proceedings in the case of election petitions promise to be among the cheapest known to our law. Both the Act itself and the rules issued by the Judges are framed with the view to make the outlay as small as possible, while ensuring the due detection and punishment of offenders. By the forty-first section of the new Act it is provided that the Judge who tries the petition is to determine the proportions in which the expenses are to be defrayed by the several parties; it is added, and we call special attention to the words themselves, for they are pregnant with important consequences:—"Regard being had to the disallowance of any costs, charges, and expenses which may, in the opinion of the Court or Judge, have been caused by vexatious conduct, unfounded allegations, or unfounded objections on the part either of the petitioner or the respondent, and regard being had to the discouragement of any needless expense by throwing the burden of defraying the same on the parties by whom it has been caused, whether such parties are or are not on the whole successful." The words we have printed in italics are equivalent to a warning against lavish outlay on either side. If one side should succeed in putting the other to needless expense, the injured party will receive redress at the hands of the court. The chief sufferers by the new system will be the members of the Parliamentary Bar. Hitherto they have been paid high fees for trifling service. Hereafter they, or some one else, will have to accept the ordinary rate of remuneration and discharge onerous duties. Indeed, there is no special reason for confining the choice of counsel to any set of members of the bar. The method of procedure is so greatly changed as to deprive barristers having great experience of the influence they formerly exercised in election cases, and to give to junior members of the bar opportunities for distinguishing themselves.

Perhaps the largest item in the amounts formerly payable by those who presented or resisted an election petition was the allowances made to witnesses. As many witnesses had to make long journeys to London, their travelling expenses were necessarily heavy. Now that election trials are to take place on the spot this item will be materially reduced, if not altogether extinguished. The thirty-fourth section of the Act provides for the payment of the "reasonable expenses" of any person giving evidence, the standard of calculation being the scale now allowed in civil actions at the assizes. The fortieth of the rules issued by the Judges prescribes that the Registrar of the Court shall ascertain and certify what expenses under this head are "reasonable." The only monetary item of magnitude is the £1000 which the petitioners have to find as security for the liquidation of costs. It will be enough, however. Yet even this burden will be the more easily borne, seeing that one or more persons may be accepted as sureties for the payment in lieu of depositing the amount in the Bank.

We think it advantageous to call attention to a section of this Act, the purport and effect of which are not generally understood. Not only is a commission of inquiry to issue when the Judge reports that corrupt practices have extensively prevailed, but the fifty-sixth section empowers any two or more electors, who have good reason to believe that corruption has been general, to present a petition praying that a Commission should issue to inquire into the facts. The expenses of this Commission are to fall on the borough or county with which it has to do. Accusations of general corruption have been levelled against certain boroughs and counties from which there will be no petition, seeing that the offenders are the defeated candidates. Those electors who value purity of election as hardly less precious than the liberty of the subject might render a public service were they to bestir themselves and put in force, wherever practicable, the provisions of the fifty-sixth section of "The Parliamentary Elections Act, 1868."

DEFECTIVE POLICE WATCHING.

ON Monday night an indignation meeting of the inhabitants of Lambeth was held at the Vestry-hall, Kennington, to take into consideration the present defective watching of the police in the parish, whereby there has lately been a great increase of burglaries and robberies from the person (in many instances attended with great violence), and to call upon the Secretary of State for the Home Department or Parliament to give adequate protection to the inhabitants of the parish in return for the large amount of money extracted from the pockets of the ratepayers in aid of a police rate, exceeding the sum of £22,000.

Mr. R. Taylor occupied the chair, and in opening the proceedings stated that a general movement on this subject was taking place in most of the parishes of London. They paid for being well watched and protected, and it was notorious that burglaries and robberies were terribly rife in the parish. He was sorry to say that under the government of the Metropolitan Board they were much more frequent than when the different parishes had the police under their own control. Making deductions for the sum contributed by the City, the police received upwards of £450,000 a year for watching the metropolis, and surely that was a sum sufficient to enable the inhabitants to live at home in a state of security. The fact was that a very large sum of money was spent in what might be called the ornamental functions of the police. He complained that a great deal too much money was spent in employing policemen on horseback to carry reports from outlying places, such as Croydon and other towns, to deliver reports at Scotland-yard, when they might come much cheaper by railway.

Mr. J. S. Jervis proposed the first resolution:—"That the large increase of burglaries in the parish of St. Mary, Lambeth, and robberies from the person, calls for immediate alteration in the police arrangements generally."

Mr. Bennett seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. R. Taylor, jun., then moved, "That this meeting is of opinion that the present system of divisioning the police in districts wholly fails to give the protection that the parish has a right to demand, having regard to the fact that it is called upon in the present year to raise the enormous sum of £22,000, the whole of which amount must come direct from the pockets of the ratepayers." He thought that the real remedy would be to reorganise the various beats. At present it was only for burglars to watch the policeman, for as soon as he had passed the particular house they intended to attack they could do as they liked, because they were perfectly sure that there would be no policeman to disturb them for a lengthened period of time.

Mr. Lewis seconded the motion, and stated that the district of Brixton and Loughborough-road was so shamefully watched that for fourteen nights successively he had gone from Kennington to Loughborough-road without seeing a policeman.

Carried unanimously.

Mr. George Hill next moved, "That this meeting is strongly of opinion that every metropolitan parish should have its own district body of police, and that the same should be under the superintendence of a responsible head, such chief officer to be amenable to the parochial authorities, inasmuch as they are the body responsible to the ratepayers."

Mr. McGoy seconded the resolution, which having been spoken to and carried.

Mr. Dymond moved, "That this meeting pledges itself to support the vestry in the great effort it is making to obtain for the inhabitants the protection so much needed."

Mr. W. Burrup seconded the resolution, which was also unanimously agreed to.

Several gentlemen addressed the meeting on the resolutions, and stated numerous cases of robbery, showing the absolute necessity of more effective watching in this district.

DISASTROUS COLLIERY EXPLOSION.

THE often-told story of a colliery explosion has, unhappily, to be told again. Rarely does a year go round in which some part of the underground industry of England is not smitten with one of these sudden and terrible calamities. Just as every winter brings its storms, and those who dwell at home at ease are reminded by some tale of shipwreck of the dangers of the seas, so nearly every year the sad story of these recurring misfortunes comes to remind us at what a terrible cost the greatest luxury and convenience of civilisation is purchased. We are only too familiar with the harrowing details of these apparent "accidents," and a catastrophe which occurred at the Springs Colliery, at Hindley, on Thursday, Nov. 26, and caused the deaths of no less than sixty-one persons, differs in no essential particular from those which have happened before. There is the same suddenness, the same mystery, the same wholesale destruction of industrious workers while earning their own and their children's bread, the same noble readiness to help, and the same dull, heavy cloud of hopeless misery settling down upon a whole village of English homes. The seam of coal was known to be what is called a fiery one—unusually full of compressed gases. It had been worked safely for four years, and the usual assurance is given that no conceivable precaution had been neglected which could contribute to the safety of the workmen. The explosion itself seems not to have been a violent one, as only two or three men were killed by the fire, two were blown into the water and drowned, and all the rest perished by suffocation. The air currents on that side of the pit were reversed, and those who were injured by fire were burned by the flame from the ventilating furnace being drawn into the workings. In another part of the pit 200 men were at work and knew nothing of the destruction which had fallen on their companions. It was the chokedamp which gave the calamity its terrible magnitude. The vital oxygen mingling with the liberated gases gives them their power to explode; the explosion itself is their sudden chemical union with that oxygen, and when it has taken place nothing remains in the long burrows of the mine but heavy gases, which stupefy and suffocate all who breathe them. It is this chokedamp which is the miner's terror. The sound of the explosion catches him at his work; a sudden vision of home and the dear ones there, and the long distance between him and them, flashes before his mind; he rushes off with all the strength of desperation along the stifling passages; but the stupor and weakness of suffocation come quickly over him, and he falls with outstretched arms and face set homewards, with hardly time to feel a pang, overtaken by death in a last race for life. Thus died upwards of fifty of the victims of the explosion in the Springs Colliery, and thus most of such victims die. They suffer less than the injured who survive. Their suffering is mental rather than physical—the agony of a supreme but unsuccessful struggle for light, and air, and life.

THE RECENT GUILDFORD ELECTION.

ALLEGED PRESSURE UPON A TRADESMAN.

THE following correspondence between Sir Peter Craigie, of Millmead House, and Mr. John Mansell, grocer, 105, High-street, has been published:—

General Sir P. CRAIGIE desires Mr. Mansell to make up his account to Saturday, Nov. 21 (that day being included), after which date he need not send to Millmead House for further orders.—Millmead House, Nov. 20.

TO GENERAL SIR P. CRAIGIE, MILLMEAD HOUSE, GUILDFORD.
Sir,—In reply to yours received this morning, and in reference to the conversation I have since had with you, I beg to say that your readiness in withdrawing your custom from me in consequence of my vote for Mr. Onslow will only stimulate me to greater exertions in the Liberal cause. I have a vote for the county, and shall plump for Mr. Pennington. I repeat again, your conduct is mean and unworthy of a gentleman, and such that I should be sorry to condescend to. Your daughter came to my shop on the evening before the polling-day, with a message to me, with your compliments—namely, "Would I refrain from voting for Mr. Onslow?" (I had previously seen Lady Craigie and Miss Craigie, and told them that I had promised to vote for Mr. Onslow, and should certainly do so.) It was then put to me three times, "Would I not refrain from voting to oblige Sir Peter?" Would I not do so for a good customer? Lady Craigie had said to me in conversation, "I see, Mr. Mansell, what I have said has had no influence upon you; but I have made up my mind what to do." This morning, too, in my conversation with you, you said, "I took care not to withdraw my account before the election, that it might not be said to be intimidation." I intend publishing this correspondence.—I remain, yours respectfully,
105, High-street, Guildford, Nov. 21.

JOHN MANSELL.

In reference to the above correspondence, Mr. Mansell furnishes the following statement to the editor of a local paper:—

Sir,—With your permission, I will furnish you with the facts of the attempt to influence my vote at the recent election for the borough on the part of Sir P. Craigie and family. That attempt utterly failed, and Sir Peter Craigie's account with me is in consequence closed. Some little time before the election I was called upon by Miss Craigie, who was accompanied by two ladies. She said, "Lady Craigie sent her compliments, and would I oblige her by voting for Mr. Garth?" I at once told her "I would not, for I had promised Mr. Onslow, and that, with my political views, I could not vote for Mr. Garth." I added, "Mr. Garth knows my opinions, and had not called on me to solicit my vote." Miss Craigie replied, "But the Irish Church question—what a dreadful thing it is! What are the poor clergymen to do if that be disestablished and disendowed? Why, they will be turned out of their houses and livings, and many of them will be almost penniless." I was scarcely prepared for this ignorance of the subject, and was somewhat at a loss to answer her without giving offence. Fortunately, however, one of the ladies who was better informed came to the rescue, and relieved her mind. I then referred to the levelling-up process proposed by Mr. Disraeli, and explained it to her, and asked if she thought that was right. She replied "that she did not." I began to think that I had made a convert, but I have since been undeceived. I may say here that Miss Craigie begged me not to mention this conversation to anyone. The next message I received was one to wait upon Lady Craigie at Millmead House, and I obeyed the message, and saw her Ladyship. She said, "I know from my daughter you have promised to vote for Mr. Onslow, but you have not considered the matter, and what will be the consequences if Mr. Gladstone and John Bright come into power? If they do," she proceeded, "Ireland will be handed over to the Pope, about which it was too shocking for my daughters." "May I," she said, "never live to see it; but, oh! I tremble for my daughters." I told her Ladyship that she was labouring under misapprehension, and began to assure her that Mr. Gladstone was no friend of the Pope and John Bright had no Roman Catholic tendencies. At the name of John Bright her Ladyship recovered herself, and spoke in severe terms of that gentleman, and concluded by saying that she could not "think how anyone could vote for such a man as Mr. Onslow," and added, "If I had a vote I would sooner die first than give it to him. I see, however, what I have said has had no influence over you; but I have made up my mind what to do." I said, "I cannot see the matter in the light in which your Ladyship does, or I should vote for Mr. Garth. I vote for the principles a man represents. Mr. Garth has never called on me to solicit my vote, as he and his party know so well my views." The interview with Miss Craigie a few days after, as described above, followed. I may say, Sir, that there is something dearer to me than gold—namely, self-respect and independence, and the esteem of all right-thinking men. If it is thought that I am likely to succumb to such influence as this, I beg to remove the impression. I am not a mere puppet, nor will I yield my independence of thought and character. Conscience is, I trust, my general, and it dictates I only acknowledge. In conclusion, I must say that, if this sort of pressure is carried out generally, it will have a demoralising effect on the trade of the town. I would say, then, to my brother tradesmen, let us manfully resist such influence as this, and discountenance all attempts to interfere with our liberty of conscience. One good may follow these attempts—they will furnish in the next Parliament the strongest argument in favour of the ballot.—I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
High-street, Guildford, Nov. 26.

JOHN MANSELL.

WHOLESALE RUSTICATION AT OXFORD.—Considerable excitement was caused at Oxford on Tuesday by the whole of the undergraduate members of New College being ordered "down," in consequence of damage done by them to a fellow-collegian's windows. As they positively refused to deliver up the actual offender, the authorities of the college deemed it expedient to resort to this extreme measure, and in the course of the day the undergraduates had left college, with the exception of those at present engaged in the schools, but who will have to quit the moment they have finished their examinations. It will doubtless be remembered that last summer term the authorities of University College adopted the same course under similar circumstances; but the undergraduates were permitted to return the next day, the dons having changed their minds. Whether the New College authorities will follow this course is not known, but at the present time the college is empty.

POLICE.

STREET OUTRAGES.—Day by day the police reports continue to tell the same old story over and over again. On Monday Henry Atkins was convicted of theft at the Middlesex Sessions. He had been known to the police for five years, and was "considered one of the most clever receivers of stolen property in London; he was connected with a man who keeps three houses for receiving stolen property, and employed young thieves to go out and steal for him." At the Mansion House, Henry Auckland was charged with highway robbery. He had just undergone a sentence of two years' imprisonment, and, as Sir R. Carden observed, "his hair had not had time to grow" before he was again in the hands of the police. William Bennett and James M'Hugh were charged at Guildhall with stealing a printing-press. Bennett had been known for ten years as a thief, and M'Hugh had two months' imprisonment last summer for theft.

At Southwark Patrick Flynn, charged with housebreaking, had been previously convicted of a similar offence. At Hammersmith Charles Powell, charged with housebreaking, had been twice convicted of fowl-stealing. About half-past ten o'clock on Monday night Mr. W. H. Hulbert, a member of Lloyd's Underwriters' Room, was going to take the train at the railway station in the Watford-road, and when near the Fire Brigade engine depot, on the west side of the street, he was suddenly attacked by three men, who first seized him tightly by the throat and threw him violently on his back. They then robbed him of a valuable gold watch and chain with a spade ace guinea attached to it, and also of a purse containing £4 10s. and some silver, with which they escaped. Mr. Hulbert was for some moments insensible. On recovering he sought for the assistance of the police, but in vain. The maker's name on the watch is Donaldson.

A BATCH OF BURGLARS CAUGHT.—At Clerkenwell, on Monday, William Summers, aged thirty-one, alias Edwin Clayfield, alias Edwin Mayfield, of 12, Pye-street, Westminster, an engine-fitter; Henry Smith, aged twenty-eight, of 35, Etruria-street, New-road, Wandsworth-road, stonemason; and John Bennett, aged twenty, of 1, George-street, Liverpool, a baker, were charged before Mr. Cooke with being in Percy-circus, Clerkenwell, with intent to commit a felony. The prisoners were further charged—Summers, with violently assaulting Police-Constable Thomas Jones, 105 G, and Inspector Potter, G division; Smith, with assaulting Police-Constable David Holloway, 52 G; Bennett, with assaulting Inspector Potter; and Summers was further charged with having in his possession two skeleton-keys, a black bag, and some wax tapers. Inspector Potter, G Division, who watched the case on behalf of the Commissioners of Police, said that at twenty-five minutes to eleven on Monday he saw the three prisoners together in Ampton-place, Gray's-inn-road. Knowing them as returned transporters, he watched and saw them examine several areas. He saw them come into King's-cross-road, and he then ran up the police-station yard and obtained the assistance of two plain-clothes constables. He then followed the prisoners to the corner of Percy-circus, and saw Summers standing near the inclosure of the circus. The prisoner Smith was about half way up the circus, on the pavement, and Bennett was trying the area door of No. 15 with a key. He then called to Holloway and Jones, and told them to follow as quickly as possible. A woman passed and disturbed them, and then all the prisoners went into Amwell-street. He went in front of them and took hold of Summers and Bennett. The moment he did so they both turned round and he was kicked on the knee and violently knocked down on a door-step, and they both got away. The prisoner Bennett threw something across the road, and it struck against the railings like iron. As he was getting up he saw Bennett running away. He called "Stop thief!" and a gentleman who was passing in a brougham gave chase to him. Witness turned round and found Summers in the custody of Constable Jones. He saw Jones, who was on the ground, kicked in the ribs violently. He was afterwards kicked on the thigh, and then the prisoner Summers again kicked him in the ribs. Some persons assisted them in getting Summers and Smith to the police station. Previous to that Holloway was violently assaulted by Smith. While at the police station Bennett was brought in and Constable Jones became so ill that witness was obliged to send for a medical man. Jones had to be removed home in a cab, and he was afraid that he would not be able to attend there for some time. He searched Summers and found on him two skeleton-keys. They were in his coat pocket. In the pocket of his overcoat he found a new black bag, such as was used by thieves for carrying away property when stolen. He saw a constable search the prisoner Bennett, and on him were found some wax tapers. Mr. Thomas James Galliers, general practitioner, of 336, Gray's-inn-road, said he was called, and examined Police-Constable Jones, who was so ill that he immediately ordered him to be removed home in a cab. He found him suffering from a contused wound on the left temple and a contused wound on the left side of the nose, injuring the nasal bone. He was breathing heavily, and very ill from the effects of external violence. He examined his body, and found a very large bruise on the left side of the chest. Two of the ribs were broken. The bone of the middle finger was fractured. One tooth of the upper jaw was knocked out, and two of the teeth in the lower jaw were loosened. He was very much injured, and was now in a very precarious state. Inspector Potter here asked for a remand, as he believed the prisoners were connected with the committal of several plate and other robberies at the north-west portion of the metropolis. The prisoners said they had no defence to make at present. All that they wanted was that the money found on them might be given up. Mr. Cooke ordered the money to be given up, and remanded the prisoners to the House of Detention until Monday next, and refused bail.

BETTER TO BE A PRISONER THAN A PAUPER.—At Marlborough-street, last Saturday, Samuel Fleming, an elderly man, was charged with begging in Regent-street. The case having been proved, the prisoner said he did not deny begging,

but he had no option. He went to the police station, and asked for an order for the workhouse. Orders were given away in turn, and before it came to his turn they were exhausted. Mr. D'Eyncourt asked him where he came from. The prisoner said about eight miles from Armagh. He had been for a number of years in the 60th Rifles, and discharged with a two-years' pension. Mr. D'Eyncourt was about to discharge the prisoner, who said he would rather go to prison than be in the condition he was. He did not like wandering about the streets, and he could not beg until he had drink. Mr. D'Eyncourt said he thought the prisoner had better go back to his own country. The prisoner said the last time he went there he was nearly killed by the Fenians. Mr. D'Eyncourt said he would commit the prisoner for ten days, and the prisoner seemed quite contented with the decision.

EXTENSIVE ROBBERIES.—Two robberies, in which the amount of plunder was unusually large, were investigated, on Monday, at the Thames Police Court. In the first, a labourer, named John Brown, was charged with burglariously entering a pawnbroker's house in Ratcliff-highway, and stealing 100 gold and silver watches, 15 gold chains, 150 gold rings, &c. The place was fastened up safely at eleven o'clock on Saturday night, when the inmates went to bed, and at six next morning, when they arose, they found the place broken into and the property gone. The thieves seem to have been very deliberate over their nefarious work, as they removed all the price tickets and left them on the counter. At four o'clock on Sunday morning, about half a mile from the shop, a policeman observed three men in the street, who suddenly separated, and, his suspicions being aroused, he followed and captured John Brown, who had thirteen of the stolen watches and half the rings in his possession. He was remanded. In the other case, a carter at the London Docks was charged with stealing a horse and cart and twenty-four bags of cochineal, worth £500. He had been intrusted with the property, but left the cart to go into a coffee-shop. While there the cart was driven away, and was afterwards found empty in Essex. The cochineal had not been traced. Circumstances appeared which rendered the prisoner's complicity with the thieves probable, and he was remanded.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, NOV. 27.

BANKRUPTS.—R. ARROW, St. Paul's Cray, builder.—G. A. C. CANNON, Pudding-lane.—A. ELLIS, Walworth, builder.—E. R. PHILLIPS, Kilburn, printer.—J. B. DEXTER, Brompton, schoolmaster.—J. M. H. ALLEN, Soho, dairyman.—H. A. ELLIS, Highgate New Town, trimmer.—J. C. STEPHENSON, Fulham, beer-shop-keeper.—T. S. EDWARDS, St. John's-wood, baker.—C. FANNING, Station-road, Colney, house-keeper.—J. RICHARDS, New North-street, Red Lion-square, carpenter.—E. CHISNALL, Bloomsbury-street, Bloomsbury-square, cab proprietor.—J. H. MUZZALL, Brighton, book-seller.—R. B. JENNINGS, Clapham.—G. A. A. BOUGHEN, Croydon, builder.—G. HARDCASTLE, Hornetown, greengrocer's assistant.—E. W. BISHOP, Camden Town, pianoforte-maker.—W. CASWELL, Bishop Stortford, corn merchant.—E. K. ALLEN, Fulham, grocer.—S. SLEDDEN, West Ham, grocer.—J. DE WINTER, Whitechapel, cheesemonger.—H. FRANKENBURG, Norton-folgate, leather bag manufacturer.—T. WOOLMORE, Hammer-smith, confectioner.—A. RITCHIE, Brompton, grocer.—J. H. MIKESCH, Cornhill, manufacturer of fancy leather goods.—J. MURDAN, Ladbroke-road, commission agent.—G. KING, Deptford, builder.—J. T. THORNHILL, southern, cattle-dealer.—R. PEARSE and H. E. BEER, Canterbury, wine merchants.—H. GAD, jun., Hornsea, dealer in fancy goods.—J. A. B. WHITE, W. BISHOP, Wolverhampton, ironmonger.—J. COHEN, Camberwell, ironmonger.—R. TALBOT, Stafford, builder.—W. W. BAKER, Salford, soap manufacturer.—R. SHILLSTONE, Bristol, soap manufacturer.—E. MURCH, Torquay, chemist.—S. BLAKEBROUGH, Leeds, dyer.—J. RICHARDSON, Pontefract, cotton manufacturer.—H. HAYES, Wharfedale, farmer.—J. G. GRAHAM, Paddington, wheelwright.—J. SHEPPARD, Hammer-smith, publican.—W. WYATT, Clapham.—J. A. BYDAWELL, Stoke Newington, farmer.—G. SMITH, Birmingham, J. CHATHAM, Ludley, ironmonger.—W. BISHOP, Wolverhampton, ironmonger.—J. COHEN, Camberwell, ironmonger.—R. TALBOT, Stafford, builder.—W. W. BAKER, Salford, soap manufacturer.—R. SHILLSTONE, Bristol, soap manufacturer.—E. 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